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Canada

Agricultural Policy Framework

Federal–Provincial–Territorial Programs

Spring 2005

Prepared by Program Planning, Integration and Management Directorate
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Spring 2005

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Agricultural Policy Framework

Federal–Provincial–-Territorial Programs

Spring 2005

Canada

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Agricultural Policy Framework

An Agricultural Policy for the 21st Century

The Government of Canada and the provincial and territorial governments are working with the agriculture and agri-food industry and interested Canadians to implement the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF) — an architecture for agricultural policy for the 21st century. The objective of the APF is to make Canada the world leader in food safety, innovation and environmentally-responsible production.

To realize this vision, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and all provinces and territories have signed the APF Framework Agreement and the Implementation Agreements. Through this signing, governments have agreed on the action plan for an agricultural policy framework composed of five elements: business risk management, environment, food safety and food quality, science and innovation, renewal and international.

Following the signing of the agreements, parties have designed programs and are moving forward with the implementation of these programs under the five elements of the Agricultural Policy Framework.

This book lists and briefly describes federal, provincial and territorial programs and initiatives that are being implemented under the APF Implementation Agreements as of the time of publication. More information on programs and initiatives is available on the federal, provincial and territorial governments' Web sites:

http://www.agr.gc.ca/index_e.phtml

http://www.gov.bc.ca/bvprd/bc/home.do

http://www.gov.ab.ca/home/index.cfm

http://www.gov.sk.ca/

http://www.gov.mb.ca/index.html

http://www.gov.on.ca/MBS/english/index.html

http://www.gouv.qc.ca/Index_en.html

http://www.gov.ns.ca/

http://www.gov.pe.ca/index.php3/

http://www.gov.nf.ca/

http://www.gov.yk.ca/

http://www.gov.nt.ca/

http://www.gov.nu.ca/

Business Risk Management Programs

Business Risk Management (BRM) programming seeks to improve producer capacity to manage risk through developing an integrated BRM framework.

New BRM programs provide equitable treatment for all producers of all commodities assuring farmers will have similar access and treatment under cost-shared programs.

In the new system, funds go where the need exists. In addition, there is no fixed cap on government funds in any given year. Payments to the sector fluctuate, falling in good years and rising in bad years. This feature makes the framework much more effective in responding to needs in times of severe crisis, no matter where the crisis strikes.

The key elements of this important priority include an improved income stabilization and disaster program (Canadian Agricultural Income Stabilization or CAIS program) and a more effective program to respond to changes in production levels (Production Insurance).

The integrated BRM program framework includes:

- expanding production insurance to provide more insurance products and protection for new commodities;
- enhancing CAIS that integrates stabilization and disaster capacity in the short term and an investment component in the long term;
- using transition measures to move existing safety net programming to the nationally based two-program set;
- aligning financial guarantee programming to be more consistent with APF objectives;
- developing private-sector risk management products to address industry-identified vulnerabilities for which protection is not available;
- providing loan guarantees that allow producer organizations to borrow funds from a qualified lender;
- purchasing and selling agricultural and agri-food products to be used during unusual market conditions in order to influence some degree of market stability; and
- researching and developing strategies for risk exposures related to animal health, plant protection and public health.

Joint Federal–Provincial–Territorial Programs

- Canadian Agricultural Income Stabilisation (CAIS) (previously Net Income Stabilization Account or NISA)
- Production Insurance (previously Crop Insurance)
- Province- and Territory-based Programming

Provincial and Territorial Programs

(previously Companion Programs)

British Columbia

- Okanagan–Kootenay Sterile Insect Release
- National Beef Industry Development Fund Agreement
- Plant and Animal Health Tracking and Monitoring
- Tree Fruit Revitalization
- Negative Margin Insurance Pilot
- Resource Management and Environmental Sustainability
- Food Safety and Quality Transition Funds
- Zeroing out Negative Margins (in progress)
- Wildlife Damage Compensation (in progress)

Alberta

- Alberta Value-Added Corporation (AVAC)
- National Beef Industry Development Fund
- Hog Industry Development
- Beef Industry Development
- Farm Water
- Disaster Assistance Loan
- Irrigation Rehabilitation
- Business Risk Assessment and Mitigation Strategies

Saskatchewan

- Wildlife Program
- Adaptation Development

Manitoba

- Agri-Food Research and Development Initiatives
- Irrigation Development Initiative

Ontario

- General Top-up (in progress)
- Self-directed Risk Management (in progress)
- Research and Development
- Plum Pox Eradication

Quebec

- Companion Contribution to ASRA (Assurance stabilisation du revenu agricole)

New Brunswick

- Agricultural Environment Management Initiative
- NISA Enhancement
- Self-directed Risk Management
- Research and Innovation

Nova Scotia

- Canada–Nova Scotia Agri-Food Industry Development Fund
- Farm Investment Fund
- Promotion and Awareness
- Technology Development
- Plum Pox Eradication

Prince Edward Island

- Agricultural Research Investment Fund
- FoodTrust of Prince Edward Island
- Sustainable Resource Conservation
- Elite Seed Potato Quality Improvement Program
- Negative Margins

Newfoundland and Labrador

- Agri-Food Innovation
- Enhanced Contribution and Mixed Farm Pilot Project

Yukon

- Agri-Food Innovation

Northwest Territories

- Research and Development

Canadian Agricultural Income Stabilization (CAIS)

What is the program objective?

The objective of the Canadian Agriculture Income Stabilization (CAIS) program is to help producers manage risks that result in both large and small decreases in income.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to:

- provide a whole farm stabilization and disaster mitigation approach;
- provide equitable treatment for all producers, regardless of the commodities they produce;
- assist in dealing with short-term income fluctuations as a result of risks outside a producer's control;
- manage risks that threaten the future profitability of farm operations;
- increase farm income stability; and
- increase the producer's ability to manage agricultural risks.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

CAIS is a new program that integrates stabilization and disaster protection. It replaces the Net Income Stabilization Account (NISA) and the Canadian Farm Income Program (CFIP). The NISA and CFIP programs ended with the 2002 program year. The CAIS program commenced with the 2003 program year.

Program description

Producers are required to annually select a level of protection, make a deposit into their CAIS account at a financial institution and submit their T1163 and supplementary form to the Administration according to predetermined deadline dates. If the administration then determines that the producer's farming operation experienced a program year margin decline relative to their reference margin, the producer will be eligible to receive benefits. As the producer's loss deepens, the government assumes a greater share of the cost to replace those losses.

To measure a producer's income situation in a given year, the Administration calculates the Production Margin for that year. A Production Margin is the difference between allowable farm revenue and allowable production input costs. Under the program, producers will be able to choose an annual level of protection that will guarantee between 70 per cent and 92 per cent of their average historical production margin in the event of a margin decline to zero and will be required to make contributions to their CAIS accounts that correspond with the levels of protection they choose. As well, producers can be protected for an amount up to 60 per cent of their negative margin. A feature of the program is the option to access an advance of a portion of the estimated program benefit early in the year. This feature is called an interim payment.

The CAIS program is delivered in British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfounland and Labrador and Yukon by the federal government. The information in this guide refers to deadlines and other delivery details for these provinces only.

If you are in Alberta, Ontario, Quebec, or the Prince Edward Island, the CAIS program is delivered provincially. Please contact your provincial administration for deadline and delivery details.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The 2003 CAIS program is currently being delivered; the interim payment was available in October of 2003. The 2004 interim applications were made available in July 2004 in provinces where the federal government administers the CAIS program.

Who should apply for the program?

All agricultural producers in Canada can take part in the program. In the program year, a producer must have:

- carried on the business of farming in Canada and reported farming income (loss) for income tax purposes;
- completed a minimum six consecutive months of farming activity;
- completed a production cycle; and
- met all program requirements (see table below) by the established deadlines.

NOTE: The eligibility requirements of six consecutive months of farming activity and a completed production cycle may be waived if the Administration determines they could not be completed due to disaster circumstances.

	Program Year		
	2003	2004	2005
Choose protection level for the CAIS Administration	November 30, 2004	November 30, 2004	May 31, 2005
Open a CAIS Program account and make the required deposit	March 31, 2006	March 31, 2006	March 31, 2006
Complete and submit the joint CRA/CAIS Statement of Farming Income/Expenses (T1163) form	November 30, 2004	June 15, 2005 (individuals) June 30, 2005 (corporations)	June 15, 2006 (individuals) June 30, 2006 (corporations)
Complete and submit Supplementary Form	November 30, 2004	September 30, 2005	June 15, 2006 (individuals) June 30, 2006 (corporations)

NB: * The deposit is under discussion and deadlines are subject to change.

What funding is available?

The Agricultural Policy Framework will provide risk management funding of $5.5 billion over the next 5 years. The maximum government contribution to a producer in a program year will be capped at $3 million, or 70 per cent of the margin decline in the program year relative to the reference margin (includes cost-sharing with provinces and territories).

Who will deliver the service?

The federal CAIS program administration will deliver in the following provinces: British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador and the territory of the Yukon from offices in Winnipeg and Regina. The provinces of Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Alberta and Ontario deliver the CAIS program in their respective provinces.

Whom do I contact for more information?

For additional information, refer to:
The CAIS Program Administration
P.O. Box 3200, Station Main
Winnipeg, MB R3C 5R7
Tel: (toll-free) 1 866 367-8506
Fax: 204 983-3947
Website: http://www.agr.gc.ca/caisprogram/main.html
and feedback form on the Website:
http://www.agr.gc.ca/caisprogram/feedback.html

Production Insurance

What is the program objective?

The objective of the Production Insurance program is to ensure that producers in the agriculture and agri-food industry across Canada have access to affordable insurance program, by funding a portion of producers' premiums and provincial administrative expenses and by offering reinsurance.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program will stabilize a producer's income by minimizing the economic effects of production losses caused by natural hazards like drought, flood, hail, frost, excessive moisture and diseases.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

The Production Insurance program was introduced at the beginning of fiscal year 2003–04; its predecessor, the Crop Insurance program, had existed since the late 1950s.

Program description

Production Insurance is a federal–provincial–producer cost-shared program that stabilizes a producer's income by minimizing the economic effects of production losses caused by natural hazards. Production Insurance is a provincially delivered program to which the federal government contributes a portion of total premiums and administrative costs. The federal government also provides a reinsurance arrangement (deficit financing) to provinces. Currently, five provinces (Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia) participate in this arrangement.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The new Production Insurance program has been in place in all provinces (not territories) since April 1, 2003. Work to develop new options under Production Insurance has taken place during 2003 and 2004, with a full range of new insurance products expected to be available by 2006, after transition is complete. Changes were introduced beginning in the 2004 program year.

Who should apply for the program?

The program is currently available to virtually all producers in all provinces. Eligibility criteria for this program will continue to evolve as provinces add new commodities to their lists of insurable agricultural commodities.

What funding is available?

Premiums for Production Insurance coverage are cost-shared between the producer, the province and the federal government.

Who will deliver the service?

Each province currently has either a Crown Corporation or a branch of the provincial agriculture department responsible for administering the Production Insurance program.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Director, PIRMD, Programs Team
Sir John Carling Building
930 Carling Avenue, Room 377
Ottawa, ON K1A 0C5
Tel: 613 759-7518
E-mail: gpikor@agr.gc.ca

Province- and Territory-based Programming

What is the program objective?

The programming is intended to provide contributions to province and territory based initiatives in the agriculture and agri-food industry.

What are the expected results of the program?

The programming provides additional assistance to the agriculture and agri-food sector to allow provinces and territories flexibility as they transition to the new set of programs under the APF.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

The majority of the province- and territory-based programs existed previously and will continue through the three-year transitional period (2003–04 to 2005–06). Most provinces will be allocated funding for fiscal years 2003–04 through 2005–06 for jointly agreed-upon initiatives. As well, the Agricultural Policy Framework Initiatives (APFI) in Newfoundland and Labrador, Nunavut, Northwest Territories and Yukon will provide for flexibility in the use of funding to allow for any programming that is consistent with the APF objectives during the entire implementation period.

Program description

The province- and territory-based programming is normally comprised of, but not limited to, research and innovation or enhancements to the core BRM programs CAIS and Production Insurance), as well as some commodity-specific price support programs. The APFI programming for Newfoundland and Labrador and the three territories may also provide for enhancements to non-BRM programs.

A list of province and territory-based programs that will be in effect for 2004–05, and which may continue for the remainder of the transitional period, follows (see page 17).

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The programming is available from April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2006.

Who should apply for the program?

The provinces, territories, delivery agents and producers are the beneficiaries of the programs.

What funding is available?

The total amount of funding available for these programs is set out in the province- or territory-specific Implementation Agreements. It amounts to $518 million in total; the breakdown by province or territory is set out below. It should be noted, however, that actual amounts will be determined based on the availability of federal BRM funding and may be adjusted to ensure that the overall 60:40 federal–provincial or federal–territorial cost-sharing required under the APF is met. The eligibility criteria these programs vary, depending on the provincial or territorial program.

Newfoundland and the three territories have been allocated the following funding for all their APF programs beginning in 2003–04 through 2007–08. These total amounts include funding for the core BRM programming where applicable and can be used over the five-year period of the APF:

Newfoundland and Labrador	$18.060 million
Yukon	$1.605 million
Northwest Territories	$1.305 million
Nunavut	$0.900 million

The other funding currently identified as being available for province- and territory-based programming for the three-year transitional period in all provinces and territories is as follows:

British Columbia	$ 50.646 million
Alberta	$ 54.675 million
Saskatchewan	$ 46.726 million
Manitoba	$ 37.077 million
Ontario	$102.237 million
Quebec	$182.600 million
New Brunswick	$8.217 million
Nova Scotia	$7.431 million
Prince Edward Island	$5.533 million
Newfoundland	$1.111 million
Yukon	$0.241 million

Who will deliver the service?

The programming may be administered by a province or territory or by a contracted agent, depending on the individual program specifications.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Director, PIRMD, Programs Team
Sir John Carling Building
930 Carling Avenue, Room 377
Ottawa, ON K1A 0C5
Tel: 613 759-7518
E-mail: gpikor@agr.gc.ca

Provincial and Territorial Programs

(previously Companion Programs)

British Columbia

- Okanagan–Kootenay Sterile Insect Release
- Plant and Animal Health Tracking and Monitoring
- Tree Fruit Revitalization
- Negative Margin Insurance Pilot
- Resource Management and Environmental Sustainability
- Food Safety and Quality Transition Funds (page 9)
- Zeroing out Negative Margins (in progress)
- Wildlife Damage Compensation (in progress)

Alberta

- Alberta Value-Added Corporation (AVAC)
- National Beef Industry Development Fund (page 111)
- Hog Industry Development (page 114)
- Beef Industry Development (page 110)
- Farm Water (page 28)
- Disaster Assistance Loan
- Irrigation Rehabilitation (page 29)
- Business Risk Assessment and Mitigation Strategies (page 165)

Saskatchewan

- Wildlife Program
- Adaptation Development

Manitoba

- Agri-Food Research and Development Initiatives (page 117)
- Irrigation Development Initiative (page 45)

Ontario

- General Top-up (in progress)
- Self-directed Risk Management (in progress)
- Research and Development
- Plum Pox Eradication

Quebec

- Companion Contribution to ASRA (Assurance stabilisation du revenu agricole)

New Brunswick

- Agricultural Environment Management Initiative (page 55)
- NISA Enhancement
- Self-directed Risk Management
- Research and Innovation (page 132)

Nova Scotia

- Canada–Nova Scotia Agri-Food Industry Development Fund (page 133)
- Farm Investment Fund (page 134)
- Promotion and Awareness (page 184)
- Technology Development (page 137)
- Plum Pox Eradication

Prince Edward Island

- Agricultural Research Investment Fund (page 138)
- Food Trust of Prince Edward Island (page 93)
- Sustainable Resource Conservation (page 58)
- Elite Seed Potato Quality Improvement Program (page 11)
- Negative Margins

Newfoundland and Labrador

- Agri-Food Innovation
- Enhanced Contribution and Mixed Farm Pilot Project

Yukon

- Agri-Food Innovation

Northwest Territories

- Research and Development

Food Safety and Quality Transition Funds

What are the program objectives?

To support British Columbia agri-food industry's transition to a national food safety and quality framework. The strategic objectives are:

- to expand awareness, knowledge and capacity with respect to food safety, food quality and plant and animal health;
- to advance the development and implementation of risk mitigation strategies to reduce the impact of plant, animal, and zoonotic pests and pathogens;
- to facilitate British Columbia agri-food industries develop and participate in national and provincial food safety, traceability, and management systems and programs;
- to increase quality, quantity and availability of information/data to support food safety systems and public health; and
- to facilitate British Columbia agri-food industries' develop and deliver recognized food quality systems.

What are the expected results of the program?

The expected results of the program are:

- expanded awareness and knowledge of food safety in the province;
- development and implementation of risk mitigation strategies;
- development and implementation of food safety, food quality and traceability management systems;
- increased quantity and quality of food safety information available in the province; and
- recognized food quality systems developed and implemented.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This transition program is currently under development.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is expected to be available from July 1, 2004 (tentative) to March 31, 2006.

Who should apply for the program?

The program is government-led, but industry may also forward projects for consideration.

What funding is available?

$2.1 million is available. Funding parameters are currently being developed.

Who will deliver the service?

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries in partnership with the British Columbia Food Safety and Quality Working Group.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Transition Fund Coordinator
BC Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
1767 Angus Campbell Road
Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3
Tel: 604 556-3085
Fax: 604 556-3117
E-mail: Ken.Evans@gems3.gov.bc.ca

Elite Seed Potato Quality Improvement Program

What is the program objective?

The purpose of this program is to:

- increase emphasis on insurance to manage agricultural risk;
- provide additional insurance coverage for elite seed potato losses; and
- provide producers with protection against elite seed potato inventory losses so elite seed lost from the seed multiplication program can be replaced and planted the following year.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to provide affordable production insurance coverage so all producers can participate in insurance programs for production losses. Lower premium costs should increase participation in these insurance programs.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a transition program.

Program description

Prince Edward Island farmers need to be able to obtain a reasonable and affordable protection against production risks beyond their control. Government wants to encourage participation in insurance-type risk management programs in view of potential changes in traditional weather patterns.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This program will terminate on March 31, 2005, unless renewed by the Minister, P.E.I. Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture (PEIDAFA).

Who should apply for the program?

Any Prince Edward Island producer who grows an insurable crop in the province. A producer who applies and qualifies for insurance by the P.E.I. Agricultural Insurance Corporation under Part XII — Elite Seed Potato Quality Improvement Program, is automatically eligible for assistance under this program.

What funding is available?

1. Comprehensive Coverage (all crops with total pure premium rate less than 9 per cent) for crops insured in 2004: producer pays 34 per cent and PEIDAFA and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) pay 66 per cent of the premium;
2. High Risk Coverage (all crops with total pure premium rates greater than 9 per cent)for crops insured in 2004: producer pays 40 per cent, and PEIDAFA & AAFC pay 60 per cent of the premium;
3. Elite Seed Potatoes insured under Schedule A — Part XII of the Crop Insurance Regulations: PEIDAFA provides additional funding beyond the required contribution to reduce the producer premium to 25 per cent of the premium. PEIDAFA and AAFC pay 75 per cent of the premium.

Who will deliver the service?

P.E.I. Agricultural Insurance Corporation.

Whom do I contact for more information?

P.E.I. Agricultural Insurance Corporation
P.O. Box 1600
Charlottetown, PE C1A 7N3
Tel: 902 368-4842
Fax: 902 368-6677
E-mail: peiaic@gov.pe.ca

Environment Programs

Environment programs are intended to help the agriculture and agri-food sector achieve environmental sustainability in the areas of soil, water, air and biodiversity.

Federal, provincial and territorial governments are working in partnership to achieve this goal through scientific research, economic analysis, policy and program development and monitoring of the sector's environmental performance. These activities support the adoption of management practices, on farms across Canada, that are beneficial to the environment and economically sustainable.

Activities undertaken to achieve these objectives include:

1) **Developing Policies and Strategies by:**

- examining alternative instruments and policies that permit the sector to contribute to Canada's international commitments and national objectives relating to climate change, toxic substance use and environmental sustainability in areas such as water, soil, air and biodiversity; and
- enhancing decision-making capacity for the sector by developing agri-environmental indicators to measure the effect of the increased environmental awareness and beneficial management practices of the sector.

2) **Creating Knowledge and Disseminating Information by:**

- reducing the impact of agriculture on the environment by providing the scientific and technical knowledge and tools to advise policy-makers, land-resource and extension specialists, and producers on more effective environmental management practices; and
- encouraging new environmental technologies by developing, assessing and promoting new environmentally sustainable technologies.

3) **Facilitating On-Farm Results by:**

- encouraging the adoption of beneficial environmental management practices by assisting producers to develop and implement environmental farm plans, providing technical assistance, accelerating conversion of environmentally sensitive crop land to perennial cover, and increasing the planting and maintenance of shelter belts; and
- improving water supply capacity by improving the ability of producers to deal with drought situations in Canada.

Federal Programs

- Environmental Farm Planning (EFP)
- National Land and Water Information Service (NLWIS)
- National Agri-Health Analysis and Reporting Program (NAHARP)
- National Farm Stewardship Program (NFSP) (supports EFP)
- Greencover Canada Program (GCP)
- Information Gaps In Water Quality and Nutrients (GAPS)
- Environmental Certification
- Agri-Environmental International Exchange
- Pesticide Risk Reduction and Minor Use Programs

Provincial and Territorial Programs

Alberta

- Canada–Alberta Farm Water Program
- Canada–Alberta Irrigation Rehabilitation Program Agreement
- Development of Environmental Standards
- Development of Soil, Water, Air and Biodiversity Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs)
- Alberta Drought Risk Management Plan (ADRMP)
- Environmental Farm Plan Development and Delivery
- Research Initiatives (Environment)
- Soil Quality Monitoring
- Spacial Data Information Systems
- Water Quality Monitoring

Saskatchewan

- Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) Program
- Environmental Review and Technology Transfer Program
- Environmental Monitoring and Indicator Program
- Crown Land Environmental Stewardship Program

Manitoba

- Covering New Ground
- Crop Diversification Centres
- Applied Investigation — Crop Production Systems
- Irrigation Development
- Manitoba Soil Survey
- Technical Support
- Technology Transfer

Ontario

- Healthy Futures for Ontario Agriculture Rural Water Quality Component
- Agri-Environmental Farm Planning
- Education and Technology Transfer – Best Management Practice (BMP) Publications
- Information Management System / Data Collection Analysis
- Nutrient Management

Quebec

- Prime-Vert Program

New Brunswick

- Agricultural Environment Management Initiative
- New Brunswick Agro-Environmental Club Program

Nova Scotia

- Nova Scotia Enhanced Environmental Farm Plans Initiative

Prince Edward Island

- Sustainable Resource Conservation Program (SRCP)
- Elite Seed Potato Quality Improvement Program
- Nutrient Management Planning Program
- Pesticide Reduction Pilot Program

Newfoundland and Labrador

- Environmental Farm Plans Initiative
- GIS Database Management Initiative
- Integrated Pest Management Initiative
- Nuisance Management Initiative
- Nutrient Management Planning Initiative
- Soil Drainage and Water Resources Management Initiative
- Soil Resources Initiative

Yukon

- Canada–Yukon Environment Programs

Environmental Farm Planning (EFP)

What is the program objective?

The National Environmental Farm Planning (EFP) Initiative will encourage producers to develop farm plans, implement beneficial management practices and continuously evaluate their environmental performance. The intent of this initiative is to help agriculture recognize its impact on the environment and to promote the continuous growth of the stewardship ethic within the agriculture industry by contributing to the adoption of environmentally beneficial management practices by agricultural producers in managing land, water, air and biodiversity.

Specific program objectives are:

- to establish principles of environmental action;
- to achieve measurable progress in meeting environmental goals for the landscape;
- to reinforce public confidence that Canadian agricultural resources are being managed in a sustainable fashion;
- to brand Canada as a source of safe, high-quality food produced using environmentally sustainable systems; and
- to support producers and landowners in taking actions that reduce the risk to the environment from agricultural operations.

What are the expected results of the program?

The National EFP Initiative will provide for the ongoing use of agri-environmental information, planning and management tools to support the stewardship ethic of producers. Under the program:

- provincial agri-environmental scans will be developed using existing analysis (National Land and Water Information Service (NLWIS), National Agri-Environmental Health Analysis and Reporting Program (NAHARP) census data, etc.) to accelerate stewardship actions in priority risk areas. Scans will be updated on an ongoing basis as improved resource data and program data become available;
- partnerships and process to deliver and support the completion of Environmental Farm Plans (EFPs) and Equivalent Agri-Environmental Plans (EAEPs) by agricultural producers will be developed, primarily in areas identified for accelerated environmental action through the Provincial scans, resulting in the increase of Canadian farms with environmental farm plans;
- the level of knowledge about Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs) by agricultural producers will be enhanced; and
- implementation of BMPs by agricultural producers in the management of land, water, air and biodiversity will be supported through the National Farm Stewardship Program (NFSP).

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

The National EFP Initiative, which builds on the successes of existing programs, is in transition and will be available to producers to develop farm plans that help farm families set priorities for addressing on-farm environmental risks, as well as those that serve a public interest.

The National EFP Initiative has expanded its scope to include financial incentives (NFSP) to encourage producers to adopt Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs) for the purpose of addressing environmental risks identified in the EFP process.

Program description

The National EFP Initiative sets out national principles and elements to ensure a consistent programming approach across Canada in achieving measurable and meaningful environmental goals in the area of water, air, soil and biodiversity.

Environmental farm planning (EFP) is a voluntary and confidential process used by individual farmers to systematically identify environmental risks and benefits from their own farming operation, and to develop an action plan to mitigate the risks. The EFP process allows farmers to set priorities for actions which address on-farm environmental concerns, as well as those that serve the public interest. Farmers who have participated in the EFP process will be eligible for financial assistance to implement BMPs identified in their action plan through the NFSP and Greencover Canada.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The EFP Initiative will be launched as Contribution Agreements with delivery agents are finalized. The EFP Initiative is proposal-based and to date:

- EFP proposals to deliver farm planning over the course of Agricultural Policy Framework (APF) have been received from all provinces and Yukon.
- Reviews of proposals are complete for British

Columbia, Alberta, Quebec, Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick. Officials continue to work with provinces to resolve details and reviews are expected to be complete for the remaining provinces by December 2004.

- Contribution Agreements have been signed in British Columbia, Alberta, Quebec, New Brunswick and P.E.I.

Who should apply for the program?

All agricultural producers will be eligible to take part in the EFP program. As agreements with provinces are completed, updates will be provided in future briefings.

What funding is available?

The National EFP Initiative and NFSP together represent a $293 million commitment to the provinces. The EFP initiative is proposal-based and at this time it is estimated that $112 million will be used to support the planning process. The estimated remainder, $181 million, will be available under the NFSP to assist farmers to undertake actions identified in the EFPs.

Producers will receive access to information and technical assistance to develop farm plans that help farm families set priorities for addressing on-farm environmental risks, as well as those that serve a public interest. Costs associated with the delivery and development of individual environmental farm plans, such as workshops, books, and technical expertise required by producers to develop their farm plans, will be covered by the EFP program. Similarly, costs associated with the development of equivalent plans by approved groups will be funded through the program. Farmers will not receive individual funding to develop an EFP or EAEP. Producers with a reviewed EFP or EAEP are eligible for incentive funding to implement BMPs identified in their action plans through the NFSP.

Who will deliver the service?

The EFP Initiative will be delivered by provinces or third-party groups that could include provinces and producer groups (see chart). Some variation will exist between delivery of EFP and NFSP programming within individual provinces.

Who will deliver the service?

Province	EFP	NFSP
British Columbia	British Columbia Agriculture Council	British Columbia Agriculture Council
Alberta	Alberta Environmental Farm Plan Company	AAFC
Saskatchewan	Provincial Council of Agriculture Development and Diversification Board	AAFC
Manitoba	Farm Stewardship Association of Manitoba	AAFC
Ontario	Ontario Farm Environmental Coalition (Ontario Federation of Agriculture to sign agreement) will subcontract the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association	Ontario Farm Environmental Coalition (Ontario) Federation of Agriculture to sign agreement) will subcontract the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association
Quebec	Province will subcontract Club Conseils en Agroenvironnment	Province
Nova Scotia	Province	Province
New Brunswick	Province will subcontract Agricultural Producers Association of New Brunswick (APANB) and La Federation des agriculteurs et agricultrices du Nouveau Brunswick (FAAFNB)	Province
Prince Edward Island	P.E.I. Federation of Agriculture	Province
Newfoundland and Labrador	Province	No NFSP program
Yukon	Territorial	AAFC

Whom do I contact for more information?

Acting Manager, Stewardship Coordination Division
AAFC-PFRA
200-303 Main St.
Winnipeg, MB R3C 3G7
Tel: 204 984-3695
E-mail: tokarchukf@agr.gc.ca

National Land and Water Information Service (NLWIS)

What is the program objective?

The National Land and Water Information Service (NLWIS) will provide land-use decision-makers with Internet access to land, soil, water, air, climatic and biodiversity resource information to support an environmentally sustainable agricultural sector.

What are the expected results of the program?

Canada's agriculture and agri-food industry is undergoing rapid change. Global competition, trade challenges and public expectations are accelerating the need to better use Canada's resources. The public and private sectors have had to respond to changing demographics, greater public concern about the health and safety of food and water, a growing demand for new products, and concerns about environmentally sustainable food production.

Trends toward more intensive agricultural practices and competing land uses have resulted in higher demands on land, soil, water and air resources and have impacted climate and biodiversity as well. Proper planning of agricultural development has become essential so that Canadian land use managers can maximize economic benefits while safeguarding the environment.

At the present time, the information needed to make environmentally responsible land use decisions is either not available or is not easily accessible. NLWIS will address this problem by making data accessible through a recognized point of entry using on-line technology and tools and providing access to experts to build the capacity of Canadians to use this information in land-use decision-making.

While some geo-spatial databases that decision makers could access through NLWIS already exist, new data will be developed and existing data and information enriched.

Several projects, currently under way across Canada, demonstrate the potential of information products that can be provided through NLWIS. These include:

- Plant Hardiness Zone Maps for Canada, an Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada initiative, outlines the different zones in Canada where various types of trees, shrubs and flowers will most likely survive. (http://sis.agr.gc.ca/cansis/nsdb/climate/hardiness/intro.html)
- The Manitoba Riparian Health Council aims to improve coordination of efforts among agencies that develop riparian projects with landowners throughout Manitoba. (http://www.riparianhealth.ca)
- The Regional Environmental Information System, operating in Prescott/Russell County, Ontario, is a set of tools for data collection and rural land/water resource management designed to revolutionize access by rural communities to accurate geospatial information through Internet technology. (http://reis.agr.ca/Getting%20Started.htm)
- The Crop Condition Assessment Program (CCAP), developed and maintained by Statistics Canada in partnership with NLWIS and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), is an interactive product that uses low-resolution, digital satellite data during the growing season to monitor changing vegetation conditions in Western Canada and the United States. (http://www25.statcan.ca:8081/ccap/ccaphome.jsp)

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

NLWIS is a transition program that will provide AAFC with a new way of doing business and delivering service.

Program description

NLWIS will be a coordinated, national service providing easy and timely access to detailed geospatial information and interpretive models to support local and regional land use decision making. It will leverage existing capability, scientific knowledge, information expertise, and technological capacity, strategically linking the land, soil, water, air, climatic and biodiversity information of federal, provincial, territorial and municipal governments, non-government organizations and the private sector. This partnership among the owners of the information is the foundation upon which NLWIS will be built.

Through NLWIS, land managers, community groups, the agricultural sector, all levels of government and the general public will be able to access meaningful geospatial information across Canada. NLWIS will also assist agricultural producers in developing Environmental Farm Plans and enable them to respond more quickly to changes in markets and consumer demands.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program will build on existing AAFC activities and will focus on delivering land and water information and decision support tools. It is a five-year program with phased-in services throughout the project implementation. Preliminary capabilities will be available in 2005, with final delivery planned for 2009.

Who should apply for the program?

NLWIS will be a national service available via the Internet to all Canadians.

What funding is available and to whom?

The total approved funding for the project is $100.1 million. This is comprised of $70.1 million in new funding and a reallocation of $30 million from AAFC's ongoing activities. The program will provide services to land-use decision-makers, but there is no direct monetary benefit.

Who will deliver the service?

Other federal departments, provincial, territorial and municipal governments, non-government organizations and the private sector. AAFC will operate the system once implemented.

Whom do I contact for more information?

NLWIS
Building 57, 960 Carling Ave.
Ottawa, ON K1A 0C6
Tel: 613 759-1712
Fax: 613 715-5111
E-mail: tills@agr.gc.ca

National Agri-Health Analysis and Reporting Program (NAHARP)

What is the program objective?

The National Agri-Health Analysis and Reporting Program (NAHARP) is

- to develop and report on national science-based agri-environmental indicators to provide a general report card that can help measure and track the environmental performance of Canadian agriculture; and
- to develop and apply tools and approaches to integrate these science-based indicators in policy and program design and assessment, to help inform decision-makers and to analyze, understand and report on the results actually achieved.

What are the expected results of the program?

It is expected that the program will:

- report to Canadians on environmental performance of sector via regular publication of Environmental Indicator reports (planned for 2005 and 2008);
- contribute to the implementation of performance-based management in Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) by reporting on environmental outcome performance (ties to Departmental Performance Reporting (DPR), Agricultural Policy Framework (APF), Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS), and responds to Office of the Auditor General (OAG) recommendations;
- provide a foundation for branding Canada on environmental sustainability claims, to be based on internationally comparable agri-environmental indicators;
- provide the foundation for setting environmental outcome targets (e.g. as used in the APF provincial agreements);
- better integrate science in policy to test different policy scenarios in order to assess probable environmental impact, to inform the policy debate and to help identify most cost-effective options; and
- contribute to enhancing the quality of departmental strategic environmental assessments in compliance with the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA).

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program that builds on previous work in AAFC that led to the publication in February 2000 of the first comprehensive assessment of Canadian agriculture's environmental performance (report entitled: *Environmental Sustainability of Canadian Agriculture: Report of the Agri Environmental Indicator Project*).

Program description

The long-term environmental sustainability of agricultural production is a major question facing the agricultural sector, especially as more scrutiny and more pressure is being placed on it to maintain acceptable levels of environmental performance. Information is one of the common needs of all decision-makers concerned with sustainability. Decision-makers at all levels need information and analysis on the performance of a given system, why that system is behaving as it is, whether that performance is satisfactory, and how it is likely to behave in the future in response, for example, to changes in policies or programs. NAHARP builds and expands on the current efforts of various experts (scientists, economists and policy makers) from AAFC and its partners, to:

- develop and report on a comprehensive set of agri-environmental indicators — science-based, objective measures of environmental conditions, risks, and changes resulting from agricultural management practices — and assess progress in adopting environmentally sound practices;
- conduct environmental analysis of policies and programs in agriculture by linking these agri-environmental indicators with, for example, economic information, to project future environmental outcomes and assess current and planned programs and policies so that resources are allocated where they are most needed; and
- develop approaches to express environmental impacts (which are typically stated in biophysical terms) in economic terms, in effect assigning a monetary value to the costs and benefits, to farmers and other Canadians, of agri-environmental impacts.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

NAHARP is up and running now. Program design began in 2001 with full implementation in 2003. The APF expanded on existing departmental efforts that began in 1993. There is no fixed date for when the program should end, since the need for environmental outcome performance measures and for the integration of science in policy are not expected to end.

Who should apply for the program?

NAHARP is an internal AAFC program. It does not provide farmers with financial incentives.

What funding is available?

The Government of Canada had committed $16 million over 5-years to NAHARP.

Who will deliver the service?

NAHARP will be delivered by AAFC.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Manager for NAHARP
AAFC
Neatby Building, 960 Carling Ave.
Ottawa, ON K1A 0C6
Tel: 613 759-7278
E-mail: lefebvrea@agr.gc.ca

National Farm Stewardship Program (NFSP)

What is the program objective?

The overall objective of the NFSP is accelerated adoption of Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs) on Canadian farms and agricultural lanscapes. This outcome will be achieved through the provision of cost-shared incentives to producers for the implementation of BMPs that address on farm risk and where identified in producers farm plans.

What are the expected results of the program?

The NFSP will support the implementation of environmental farm plans and support the adoption of environmental BMPs by agricultural producers in the management of land, water, air and biodiversity. NFSP will:

- increase the number of BMPs adopted by agricultural producers; and
- increase the level of knowledge about BMPs by agricultural producers.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

The NFSP will provide financial and technical assistance to encourage producers to adopt BMPs to address environmental risks identified in the Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) process. Once producers have a reviewed EFP or an Equivalent Agri-Environmental Plan (EAEP), they will be eligible to apply for incentives to assist with implementatiing BMPs identified on their action plan.

Both farm practices and environmental risks vary greatly across Canada. What might be an important and valuable BMP in one part of the country may be of much lower priority in another region. The NFSP is a joint effort between every province and the federal government and will provide the provinces with the flexibility required to provide support for BMPs that address the issues of greatest concern.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The National Farm Stewardshop Program will be made available to producers once EFP programs are operational in the province or territory. Agreements are currently in place for BC, New Brunswick and Quebec.

It is anticipated that NFSP will be available in all provinces by April 2005.

Who should apply for the program?

All agricultural producers who have achieved an EFP or EAEP will be eligible to apply for incentives through the NFSP to help implement specific BMPs.

What funding is available?

The National EFP Initiative and NFSP together represent a $293-million commitment to the provinces. The EFP initiative is proposal-based and at this time it is estimated that $112 million will be used to support the planning process. The estimated remainder of $181 million will be available under the NFSP to assist farmers to undertake actions identified in the EFPs.

The implementation of BMPs will be cost-shared with producers, with a maximum federal contribution of up to $30 000 provided to an individual applicant. The federal cost share will vary from 30 per cent to 50 per cent depending on the degree of public benefit associated with the practice. Additional funding may be available through other provincial and territorial programs/initiatives.

Who will deliver the service?

In some provinces, delivery will be through a third party, while in other cases, provinces will deliver on behalf of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC). In the Prairie Provinces, AAFC will be responsible for administering and delivering incentive funds. Some variation will exist between delivery of EFP and BMP programming within individual provinces.

Who will deliver the service?

Province	EFP	NFSP
British Columbia	British Columbia Agriculture Council	British Columbia Agriculture Council
Alberta	Alberta Environmental Farm Plan Company	AAFC
Saskatchewan	Provincial Council of Agriculture Development and Diversification Board	AAFC
Manitoba	Farm Stewardship Association of Manitoba	AAFC
Ontario	Ontario Farm Environmental Coalition (Ontario Federation of Agriculture to sign agreement) will subcontract the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association	Ontario Farm Environmental Coalition (Ontario) Federation of Agriculture to sign agreement) will subcontract the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association
Quebec	Province will subcontract Club Conseils en Agroenvironnment	Province
Nova Scotia	Province	Province
New Brunswick	Province will subcontract Agricultural Producers Association of New Brunswick (APANB) and La Federation des agriculteurs et agricultrices du Nouveau Brunswick (FAAFNB)	Province
Prince Edward Island	P.E.I. Federation of Agriculture	Province
Newfoundland and Labrador	Province	No NFSP program
Yukon	Territorial	AAFC

Whom do I contact for more information?

Acting Manager, Stewardship Coordination Division
AAFC-PFRA
200-303 Main St.
Winnipeg, MB R3C 3G7
Tel: 204 984-3695
E-mail: tokarchukf@agr.gc.ca

Greencover Canada

What is the program objective?

The objective of Greencover Canada program is to maximize environmental benefits to Canadians by protecting land from wind and water erosion, improving water quality, enhancing biodiversity and increasing carbon sequestration in the soil.

What are the expected results of the program?

The goals of Greencover Canada are to expand the area covered by perennial forage and trees and promote sustainable land use practices on rangeland and environmentally sensitive areas through four program components: land conversion, critical areas, technical assistance and shelterbelts. The program will:

- provide farmers with technical assistance and financial incentives to convert environmentally sensitive cultivated land to perennial cover through the program's Land Conversion component;
- improve the health and function of riparian areas to improve water quality and provide enhanced wildlife habitat through the Critical Areas component. Livestock and cropping management practices will be supported through financial incentives that mitigate the impact of agricultural contaminants on water courses. This includes services from the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) Shelterbelt Centre;
- provide producers with information about Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs) and help accelerate adoption of these practices through the Technical Assistance component. It will focus on ensuring the best information is readily available to producers through field days, workshops, fact sheets, and websites; and
- encourage the planting of trees on agricultural land through the Shelterbelt component, to achieve agricultural and environmental benefits related to soil and water conservation, improvements in energy efficiency and wildlife habitat, and to sequester atmospheric carbon.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

The Greencover Canada program is a five-year, $110-million Government of Canada initiative to help producers improve their grassland-management practices, protect water quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance biodiversity and wildlife habitat.

A national program, Greencover Canada consists of four components, each with a specific focus:

1) Land Conversion provides incentives to producers to convert environmentally sensitive land in Canada (Land Inventory Classes 4, 5, 6 or 7) from annual crops to perennial cover;
2) Critical Areas provide incentives to producers through the National Farm Stewardship Program (NFSP) to encourage better management of agricultural land near water;
3) Technical Assistance, through financial assistance to producer groups and other organizations, accelerates the adoption of beneficial management practices by providing extension materials; and
4) Shelterbelt provides incentives through the National Farm Stewardship Program to encourage planting trees on agricultural land. The Shelterbelt component also will provide some funding for applied investigation of issues related to the use of trees and shrubs on agricultural land.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The Land Conversion component was launched on May 16, 2003. In 2005, and all future years, the deadline for applications is January 31.

The three other components (Critical Areas, Technical Assistance and Shelterbelt) will become available as the programs are developed in each province. The Technical Assistance component has started in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. The applied research portion of the Shelterbelt component has also started.

Greencover Canada is a 5-year program ending March 31, 2008.

Who should apply for the program?

For Land Conversion, the registered landowner, as indicated on the certificate of title, state of title certificate, certificate of possession, title of ownership or deed (renters or leaseholders are not eligible for financial assistance) is eligible.

For the producer incentive portion of the Critical Areas and Shelterbelt components, the eligibility criteria will be the same as for all other BMPs offered under the National Farm Stewardship Program (NFSP).

For the Technical Assistance component, eligible applicants include incorporated non-profit organizations, incorporated environmental groups, educational institutions, co-operatives, corporations, provincial governments or agencies of these governments and provincial Crown corporations.

What funding is available?

Under the Land Conversion component, approved applicants will receive incentives in two parts:

- an initial one-time payment of $20 per acre will be made to clients who seed or plant tame forage or trees and sign a Contribution and Land Use Agreement, or a one time payment of $75 per acre will be made to clients who seed native forage species and sign a Contribution and Land Use Agreement; and
- a second one-time $25-per-acre payment will be made to clients following the establishment and inspection of perennial cover.

Under the Critical Areas and Shelterbelt components, incentives will be offered through the NFSP.

The Technical Assistance component will provide funding to organizations and groups to accelerate the adoption of BMPs for the sustainable use and management of pasture, rangeland, critical areas and shelterbelts on the agricultural landscape through the provision of technical expertise and tools. Details of this component are being developed in each province.

Who will deliver the service?

The Land Conversion component is delivered by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

The delivery of other components of Greencover Canada will be integrated with other programs within the Agriculural Policy Framework's environment element and will vary across provinces.

Whom do I contact for more information?

For more information:
Tel: (toll-free) 1 866 844-5620

Information Gaps in Water Quality and Nutrients (GAPS)

What is the program objective?

The objective of the GAPS program is to conduct research and development to accelerate the development of better Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs) which minimize adverse impacts of agriculture on air, water, soil and biodiversity. Particular emphasis is placed on reducing the risk to water quality due to livestock operations and nutrients additions, including manure, to cropping systems.

What are the expected results of the program?

The final outcome of the program is to reduce the risk to water from livestock and cropping production systems. Intermediate outcomes are to provide knowledge for safe and efficient agronomic use of animal manures and nutrients. GAPS will accelerate the development of better BMPs and foster adoption of alternative management practices, which reduce risks to the environment and health. This initiative will promote the re-alignment of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) science activities to the key environmental priorities stated in the Agricultural Policy Framework.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

There are two broad research priorities:

1) reducing risk to water quality from Intensive Livestock Operations (ILOs) (bacteria, E. coli, etc.; ammonia gas losses; and phosphorus contamination); and
2) reducing risk to water quality from Nutrients (including manures) from cropping systems (increased understanding of nutrient cycling; development of decision support systems).

The GAPS program will be delivered through a process of soliciting Letters of Intent (LOIs) from AAFC researchers, selection of LOIs for full proposals submission, peer science review of full proposals, project selection in 2004 and project implementation and completion through the period 2004–08. A Management committee, made up of six members (four AAFC and two non-AAFC environment program managers), will oversee the program and review LOIs. A Science and Technology Committee will assist in the peer science review of full proposals and make recommendations for funding. It will consist of non-AAFC scientists from other government departments, industry, and/or universities, both within and outside Canada.

Fifty-one (51) LOIs were received totalling $26 million; 13 full proposals were requested, totalling $10.7 million; 11 proposals are recommended for funding, totalling $8 million. A second call for the remainder of the funding is planned for October 2004.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The GAPS program was launched in December 2003, and projects began in April 2004.

Who should apply for the program?

AAFC researchers. Partnerships with other government departments and agencies are encouraged.

What funding is available?

$9.7 million is available for the GAPS program over the next four years. This funding will be distributed to the lead AAFC scientist of selected research projects. The lead AAFC scientist will administer the funds, on behalf of the team.

Who will deliver the service?

The program is led by the Science Director for Water and Nutrients. AAFC will deliver the program through research scientist team leads.

These teams will consist of AAFC and non-AAFC researchers. Generally, these teams will involve multi-location projects and cooperative work with other countries, departments, provincial organizations, private industry and universities.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Science Director, Soil, Water and Air Quality
AAFC
P.O. Box 20280
Fredericton, NB E3B 4Z7
Tel: 506 452-4802
E-mail: butts@agr.gc.ca

Environmental Certification

What is the program objective?

The Environmental Certification program will help build Canada's reputation as an agricultural world leader in environmental stewardship through certification.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to benefit producers by:

- improving community relations in areas and situations where concerns exist about the environmental impact of agricultural operations; and
- meeting market requirements for a certain standard of environmental management performance.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

This program will provide a sound framework, within 4 years, for environmental farm certification through examining existing tools, including regulations, standards, best practices and codes of practice and developing additional tools, where appropriate.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

Environmental certification will be available to producers within 4 years (2008).

Who should apply for the program?

All members of the agriculture sector may eventually take part in the program (sectoral or individual application).

What funding is available?

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) will develop the framework for environmental certification and make the program available to producers. Up to $6 million is available for this initiative.

Who will deliver the service?

AAFC will develop the framework for the delivery of a certification program. The delivery agent for such a program will be identified during the development phase.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Manager, Environment Awareness and Stewardship
AAFC
Building 97, 960 Carling Avenue
Ottawa, ON K1A 0C6
Tel: 613 759-7300
E-mail: mckeagued@agr.gc.ca

Agri-Environmental International Exchange

What is the program objective?

The objective of this program is to share Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's (AAFC's) experience and expertise in the areas of environmentally sustainable agriculture with developing countries through scientific, technical and educational capacity-building to reduce poverty and contribute to food security. It also contributes, in part, to branding Canada as producing environmentally responsible food. This program also provides effective and timely agri-environmental policy development advice, input and liaison in support of departmental and interdepartmental international issues, domestically and abroad.

What are the expected results of the program?

The expected results of the program are:

- policy integration with the government of Canada's environmental domestic and international policy priorities on issues such as agri-environmental linkages to trade and health policies, climate change, natural resources and sustainable development;
- facilitation of policy debate and decision-making on current and future international agri-environmental policy, supported by research and analysis;
- policy development on international agri-environmental issues and strong policy foresight and management of emerging international agri-environmental issues and their linkages with other policy areas; and
- initiatives in support of agri-environmental capacity-building in developing countries, including strengthened linkages with AAFC International Team, the Agriculture Network at Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), and the Sustainable Development Division at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT).

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

Work undertaken in this program links to the United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organization's (UN-FAO) Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD) initiative, announced at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa, in 2002. It also links to ongoing collaboration with other international organizations, such as the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA), the North American Commission on Environmental Cooperation (NACEC), other government departments, particularly CIDA, and key countries such as the United States and Mexico. This program supports SARD through partnerships in building the capacity of producers, rural communities and related stakeholders in developing countries to promote good practices for SARD and improve sustainable access to land and water resources, technologies, information and markets.

Initial activities under this program include: placement of an AAFC expert at the UN-FAO to assist development of the global SARD Resource Facility; agri-environmental policy capacity-building in Central and South Americas; and Canada–Mexico–USA collaboration on water quality issues in agriculture. Generally, implementation of this program includes consolidation of existing international development activities within and outside AAFC and collaboration with AAFC International Team, CIDA, DFAIT, UN-FAO, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and other national and international organizations.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is currently underway and will continue until March 31, 2008.

Who should apply for the program?

This internal AAFC program is not available directly to producers.

What funding is available?

$1 million over 5 years. There is no direct funding available to recipients. However, activities will include opportunities for collaboration with and support for stakeholders, such as farmer organizations.

Who will deliver the service?

AAFC.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Activity Lead for International Issues, Environment Team
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
930 Carling Avenue
Ottawa, ON K1A 0C5
Tel: 613 759-6076
E-mail: martati@agr.gc.ca

Pesticide Risk Reduction and Minor Use Programs

What is the program objective?

The Pesticide Risk Reduction (PRR) Program will help reduce the risks to the environment from pesticides used in agriculture, contribute to a cleaner, healthier environment and result in safer food for consumers. The Minor Use Program (MUP) will provide benefits to Canadian producers, the environment and consumers by focusing on providing access to new pest management tools.

What are the expected results of the program?

The PRR Program will develop and implement strategies to reduce pesticide risks, conduct research into improving methods for pest control and develop alternative approaches to pest management. MUP will assist producers in accessing more environmentally friendly and more-efficient pest management technologies, which will increase their competitiveness in global markets.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This was a new initiative in 2003.

Program description

Under the PRR, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) is working with provincial and industry partners to gather information on priority crops to identify gaps in the range of pest management products available. It also supports research to develop commodity-specific risk-reduction strategies. MUP's major activities centre on conducting field trials and generating data to support registration of minor use pesticides. AAFC works closely with grower groups and pesticide companies to identify and prioritize major pest management problems.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The programs are in operation. MUP funding continues until 2008. PRR funding is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

The PRR program provides financial support for the implementation of commodity-specific risk reduction strategies. The research community and grower organizations are invited to respond to requests for proposals (RFPs) addressing particular pest management issues.

What funding is available?

There is no funding available to producers. AAFC funding totals $58.5 million over 6 years, 2003–04 to 2007–08.

Who will deliver the service?

The delivery agents for the initiatives are AAFC and PMRA. Stakeholder consultations on program priorities and directions are a feature of the programs.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Randy Fletcher
Programs Officer, Pest Management Centre
Building 57, NCC Driveway
960 Carling Avenue
Ottawa, ON K1A 0C6
Tel: 613 694-2457
E-mail: fletcherr@agr.gc.ca

Study of Environmental Regulations for Agriculture

What is the program objective?

The objective of the multi-year research study is to investigate the impact of Environmental Regulations (ER) on primary agriculture at the farm level. The study evaluates the overall efficiency and effectiveness of existing ERs for the sector and recommendations for feasible and workable future environmental regulations leading to guidance principles for the government such as a smart regulation principle to achieve desired outcomes.

What are the expected results of the program?

The study is expected to achieve the following results:

- The impact of ERs on private, as well as social, costs and benefits is assessed
- Over all efficiency and effectiveness of ERs to ensure the sustainability of the sector is evaluated.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program under the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF). Phase I of the four- phase study is now completed and Phase II is getting under way.

Program description

Phase I	Develop assessment criteria and methodology for measuring the impact of ERs for the agriculture sector. Develop a comprehensive inventory to deposit findings.
Phase II	Undertake a series of environmental and economic assessments of ER's impact on the sector.
Phase III	Evaluate overall efficiency and effectiveness of existing ERs for the sector leading to a guidance principle for the government.
Phase IV	Evaluate the future role of regulations to achieve desired outcomes — environmental and economic — as part of the Agricultural Policy Framework.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

A database of agri-environmental regulations has been developed and a conceptual / methodological report has been completed during Phase I. Results of two case studies (hog and potato) under Phase II will be available during 2005.

Who should apply for the program?

Not applicable.

What funding is available?

$ 600 000 for the entire study (four phases).

Who will deliver the service?

Contract research on competitive basis.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Chief, Agriculture and Environmental Policy Analysis,
Economic and Industry Analysis Division
960 Carling Ave.
Ottawa, ON K1A 0C6
Tel: 613 759-1796
E-mail: macgrbo@agr.gc.ca

Canada–Alberta Farm Water Program

What is the program objective?

The objective of the Canada–Alberta Farm Water Program (CAFWP) is to fund new or improved water projects that provide access to previously unused water sources or increase the supply of on-farm water in Alberta.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to help farmers and ranchers develop long-term, reliable supplies of fresh water for uses such as domestic, livestock, small-scale irrigation and other on-farm uses.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

CAFWP is a new program.

The deadline for constructing projects under the old Alberta Farm Water Program was March 31, 2003, with applications submitted by May 31, 2003.

Any projects constructed after April 1, 2003, will be eligible for benefit under CAFWP. This program was made possible by the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF).

Program description

The program targets long-term water supply solutions that result in an adequate, sustainable, on-going water supply over many years such as wells, pipelines, dugouts, stock dams, spring development, cisterns, remote watering systems, etc.

Some portable systems or temporary solutions are accepted on a case-by-case basis.

Water projects must be legal and licensable where required, under the *Water Act*.

Any active producer including individuals, partnerships, corporations, etc. with a minimum of $10 000 farm commodity production per year is eligible to apply under the program.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

Producers have until March 31, 2004, to complete their projects and until April 15, 2004 to submit their application.

This program is in place for 2004–05 and 2005–06 years as well.

Who should apply for the program?

To be eligible for funding under the CAFWP, the expense must have been incurred between April 1, 2003 and March 31, 2004.

What funding is available?

The federal and provincial governments jointly fund the new program. Federal dollars are contributed through the recently signed Agriculture Policy Framework Implementation Agreement. Funding from the provincial government was provided through the 2003–04 provincial budgets.

The new water program, jointly supported by Agriculture, Agri-Food and Rural Development (AAFRD) and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, has up to $11 million in funding for Alberta producers this year. The provincial share is $5 million. The federal portion, $6 million, is money previously committed to Alberta under safety net programs, which were recommitted to the province under the APF.

The program will pay one-third of development costs, to a maximum of $5 000 per producer, for eligible water supply projects. Producers must complete their projects by March 31, 2004 and submit their applications by April 15, 2004. Similar dates are in place for the 2004–05 program.

Who will deliver the service?

AAFRD will deliver the program.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Applications can be obtained through the
Rural Services Division
AAFRD
Tel: 780 422-9167,
or MLA constituency offices
Website: http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/rsv7793?opendocument.

For Technical Information about Water Development Projects contact:
AAFRD Water Specialists in Edmonton, Alta.
Tel: 780 422-5000.

Canada–Alberta Irrigation Rehabilitation Program Agreement

What is the program objective?

The objectives of the Irrigation Rehalibitation Program (IRP) are to:

- provide timely review of irrigation rehabilitation project reports for Irrigation Council;
- monitor the construction of the rehabilitation projects;
- maintain a record on all completed irrigation rehabilitation projects; and
- monitor and evaluate new technologies or materials used in irrigation rehabilitation program.

What are the expected results of the program?

The expected result of the program is the rehabilitation of infrastructure in the irragation districts to ensure ongoing and sustainable water management.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

The IRP is an existing cost-shared program between Agriculture, Agri-Food and Rural Development (AAFRD) and the Irrigation Districts. The provincial government portion will now be cost-shared 60:40 by the federal government for the years 2003–04, 2004–05 and 2005–06 under the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF).

Program description

Project reports are submitted to Irrigation Council for approval. Expenditures for approved projects are documented by progress certificates, which give the Irrigation District the authority to withdraw funds from the program's account.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This is an ongoing program.

Who should apply for the program?

Irrigation Districts with project proposals should apply for funding.

What funding is available?

Funding is available to Irrigation Districts in Alberta. Amounts vary from year to year based on available funds and project proposals.

Who will deliver the service?

Irrigation Branch of AAFRD.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Director, Irrigation Secretariat
Room 328
Provincial Building
200 - 5 Avenue S
Lethbridge, AB T1J 4L1
Tel: 403 381-5176
Fax: 403 382-4406
E-mail: len.ring@gov.ab.ca

Development of Environmental Standards

What is the program objective?

The Development of Environmental Standards initiative is to develop science-based environmental standards for agricultural operations in Alberta. Current priorities relate to manure and nutrient management and levels of soil phosphorus.

What are the expected results of the program?

Once standards are developed, agricultural producers will have guidelines to follow.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing, ongoing initiative.

Program description

Research is being conducted to assess soil phosphorus (P) runoff losses to determine the amount of P that can be added to a range of agricultural soils that will not impair water quality. Research is also being conducted to support the siting of livestock operations and to minimize the social impacts. This information will provide the scientific-base for developing environmental standards to support the current agriculture industry regulations.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This is an ongoing initiative.

Who should apply for the program?

This program provides information to producers, technical professionals and extension personnel across Alberta.

What funding is available?

Funding is available to staff from Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development (AAFRD) plus funding from the Alberta Crop Industry Development Fund, Livestock Industry Development Fund and the Alberta Agricultural Research Institute.

Who will deliver the service?

Various AAFRD divisions.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Branch Head,
Irrigation Branch
Resource Management & Irrigation Division
Agriculture Centre
5401 – 1 Avenue South
Lethbridge, AB T1J 4C7
Tel: 403 381-5143

Development of Soil, Water, Air and Biodiversity Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs)

What is the program objective?

The objective of developing Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs) is to develop protocols and information materials targeted toward improving environmentally sustainable agriculture, based on solid research and leading edge information for soil, water, air and biodiversity in Alberta.

What are the expected results of the program?

As producers implement various BMPs on their farms, the result will be a more environmentally sustainable agricultural industry coupled with overall improvements to the landscape.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an ongoing program.

Program description

Economically sound and practical resource materials are developed in conjunction with the research community and agricultural industry. These information packages provide the foundation for technology transfer.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This is an ongoing program.

Who should apply for the program?

This program provides information to technical professionals and extension personnel across Alberta.

What funding is available?

Funding varies by Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development (AAFRD) division and is targeted to divisional staff.

Who will deliver the service?

Various AAFRD divisions.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Director, Technical Services Division
Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
#306, 7000 – 113 Street
Edmonton, AB T6H 5T6
Tel: 780 427-0674

Director, Resource Management & Irrigation Division
Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
#206, 7000 – 113 Street
Edmonton, AB T6H 5T6
Tel: 780 422-4596

Alberta Drought Risk Management Plan (ADRMP)

What is the program objective?

Recurring droughts are a part of Alberta's climate. These droughts can cause serious impacts on the province's agriculture industry. Ad hoc responses to an existing drought crisis may lead to untimely and costly short-term solutions. In contrast, a risk management approach to drought allows an immediate, effective response during a drought crisis and also reduces drought impacts over the long term through planning and preparedness. The Alberta Drought Risk Management Plan (ADRMP) addresses this need. The plan provides a framework for a coordinated, pro-active approach to reduce the effects of drought on Alberta farmers and ranchers.

What are the expected results of the program?

The plan is expected to enable the agricultural sector to be prepared for a drought by:

- taking actions before a drought that increases the level of readiness by all stakeholders;
- conducting monitoring, evaluating and reporting on drought-related conditions; and
- taking action during and immediately following a drought to reduce it's impact.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program that provides timely information to Alberta's producers concerning drought conditions and steps to be taken to mitigate the effects that a drought will have on a farmer's operation.

Program description

The ADRMP has developed a drought action plan that outlines the actions taken dependent on the level of drought: from Normal Conditions, to Drought Alert, to Drought.

For further details on how this program works, visit: http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/cl3883/$file/plan.pdf?OpenElement for a copy of the ADRMP.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This program is conducted anew every year, with information regarding the drought monitoring activities posted on the "Ropin' the Web" website.

Who should apply for the program?

This program provides information to the public, farmers and ranchers in Alberta. Information is made public on the "Ropin' the Web" AAFRD website.

Who will deliver the service?

AAFRD, in collaboration with Alberta Environment, Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration and Agriculture Financial Services Corporation.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Rural Services Division, AAFRD
Rm. 201, 7000-113 St.
Edmonton, AB T6H 5T6
Tel: 780 422-9167
Toll-free anywhere in Alberta at 310-0000
Website: www.agric.gov.ab.ca and type in Drought Plan on the internal search engine.

Environmental Farm Plan Development and Delivery

What is the program objective?

The objective of the Enviromental Farm Plan (EFP) program is to identify and address environmental risks and opportunities; to maintain water, soil, air quality and biodiversity; and to ensure a healthy environment, which helps Alberta's products compete in the world market.

What are the expected results of the program?

The results of the program are expected to:

- encourage sustainable production of crops and livestock;
- reduce farm inputs like herbicides, insecticides, fertilizers and fuel;
- demonstrate to the public, governments, regulators, lenders and/or investors that farmers are managing their environmental risks;
- increase the understanding of legal requirements related to environmental issues; and
- identify what farmers are already doing well and pinpoint where improvements could be made.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This program was in transition.

Program description

Trained EFP facilitators deliver the program to producers through two workshops and a workbook for home use. Each workshop takes 4 to 5 hours. At the first workshop, farmers assess the soil and site characteristics on their farm and are introduced to the EFP workbook.

Between the two workshops, farmers complete the worksheets in the workbook. Each worksheet is an easy-to-use checklist. There are 23 worksheets covering all aspects of agricultural operations. Only those that relate to the individual operation are completed. A draft plan is then prepared to address any identified risks.

At the second workshop, ideas are shared with the other participants and the EFP is finalized. Next, the completed workbook is submitted for a confidential review by a review committee. The plan is then implemented. A follow-up workshop will be offered within 3 years to help keep the plan current.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This program was in transition but, as of May 10, 2004, is available through the Alberta Environmental Farm Plan.

Who should apply for the program?

The main people involved in the day-to-day operation and management of the farm are encouraged to attend the workshops.

What funding is available?

Through the 5-year program, the federal government is investing $48.8 million in Alberta, with the provincial government providing $32.6 million of in-kind support services, to help producers identify environmental benefits and risks, develop action plans and implement beneficial management practices to minimize environmental risks.

Who will deliver the service?

The Canada–Alberta Environmental Farm Plan program will fund the delivery of environmental farm plans in the province. A non-profit organization comprised of industry and government stakeholders, called the Alberta Environmental Farm Plan, will administer and deliver the awareness and risk assessment portion of the environmental farm plan initiative, which is designed to increase producer knowledge of environmental benefits and risks.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Alberta Environmental Farm Plan
Tel: 780 436-2339 or (toll-free) 1 866 844-2337
Website: www.albertaefp.com/

Research Initiatives (Environment)

What is the program objective?

Ongoing research initiatives, in areas of environmental concern and for key priorities in Alberta, will result in improved knowledge. Information gained will be developed into formats suitable for technology transfer.

What are the expected results of the program?

As information is gained and transferred to the agricultural community, there will be improvements in environmentally sustainable agricultural practices on the landscape.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program details

Priority areas are established in consultation with the research community and the agricultural industry.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This is an ongoing initiative. New information is developed continually.

Who should apply for the program?

This program provides information to technical professionals and extension personnel across Alberta.

What funding is available?

Internal funding varies by Alberta Agriculture Food and Rural Development (AAFRD) division, and is targeted towards AAFRD research initiatives. Various industry development funds, such as the Alberta Livestock Industry Development Fund and the Alberta Crop Industry Development Fund, provide funding on a project basis. In addition, funding is available from the Alberta Agricultural Research Institute on a project basis.

Who will deliver the service?

Various AAFRD line divisions and others involved in research.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Director,
Resource Management & Irrigation Division
Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
#206, 7000 – 113 St.
Edmonton, AB T6H 5T6
Tel: 780 422-4596

Soil Quality Monitoring

What are the program objectives?

Alberta Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture (AESA) has three objectives for its Soil Quality Resource Monitoring Program:

1) to determine the state of soil quality across the province of Alberta;
2) to determine the risk of change in soil quality with various management practices; and
3) to determine how soil quality integrates into environmental sustainability.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to result in:

- soil quality monitored and projects developed to help understand and conserve soil quality in Alberta; and
- soil quality research fostered in Alberta.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This existing program was established in 1997.

Program details

This program operates in three areas: education, training and research. This is done by monitoring soil quality throughout the province; presenting work at conferences, workshops, field days and tours; and assessing risk through modeling.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This is an ongoing program. A Soil Quality Index should be developed by 2006.

Who should apply for the program?

This program provides information to technical professionals and extension personnel across Alberta. Information is disseminated by the Conservation and Development Branch, regional extension staff, and the "Ropin' the Web" website.

What funding is available?

Line division funding from Resource Management and Irrigation Division is targeted to divisional of Alberta Agricultural Food and Rural Development (AAFRD) staff.

Who will deliver the service?

The program is managed by the Resource Management and Irrigation Division (Conservation and Development Branch).

Whom do I contact for more information?

AESA Soil Quality Program Coordinator,
Conservation and Development, AAFRD
Rm. 206, 7000 – 113 Street
Edmonton, AB T6H 5T6
Tel: 780 427-3432
Website: www.agric.gov.ab.ca

Spacial Data Information Systems

What is the program objective?

The Objective of the Spacial Data Information Systems services is to develop a Geographical Information System (GIS) for historical and current soil, water, air, landscape and climate data in Alberta.

What are the expected results of the program?

Spatial information will be stored at field, watershed, municipal and provincial scales for use in integrated environmental planning and research. This system will also serve as a platform for web-based information delivery and decision support and emergency response systems.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

This corporate service is for government and non-government clients and partners who wish to integrate well-documented temporal and spatial information with standard representations of geographic information. At the foundation of this service are three major categories: Ecodistricts of Alberta, Soil Landscape of Canada and the Alberta Township System. These layers will be augmented with a comprehensive aerial photography layer that will enhance the presentation of information with visual impact.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The technological infrastructure has been developed and purchased in the form of a GIS web server, with the Drought Information Monitoring System as an initial offering. Ongoing data layer development includes the installment of a comprehensive aerial photography layer that will enhance the presentation of information with visual impact.

Who should apply for the program?

As stated earlier, this is a corporate service that will encourage data sharing and cooperative partnerships in the development of complete data sets that are often prohibitive to develop for a single program but can be beneficial and cost effective to develop in partnership with common objectives.

What funding is available?

Not applicable.

Who will deliver the service?

The Resource Data Unit of the Conservation and Development Branch.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Branch Head,
Conservation and Development Branch
Resource Management & Irrigation Division
#206, 7000 – 113 Street
Edmonton, AB T6H 5T6
Tel: 780 427-3908

Water Quality Monitoring

What is the program objective?

This long-term monitoring program tracks water quality in 23 streams in agricultural areas across Alberta as the agricultural industry grows and practices change. Alberta Environmentally Sustained Agriculture's (AESA) Stream Survey is operated by Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development (AAFRD), Alberta Environment, Alberta Health and Wellness, and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (PFRA).

An Alberta study in 1995 and 1996 confirmed that the intensity of agricultural activities has a direct effect on water quality. That information prompted the agricultural industry, governments and other agencies to seek ways to better protect Alberta's freshwater resources.

Tracking changes in water quality helps the industry assess whether the changes it's making are having a positive effect on water quality. The monitoring results also identify the specific concerns in each watershed, helping to guide farmers and ranchers as to the types of proactive changes that could improve water quality.

What are the expected results of the program?

This program will enable trends in surface water quality to be tracked over time as the agricultural industry grows and management practices change.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This existing program was established in 1997.

Program description

The program monitors surface water quality in 23 small, agricultural watersheds in the province. These watersheds were selected to represent the spectrum of agricultural intensity and eco-climatic regions of the province. Samples are collected with a flow-biased frequency, and are analyzed for a suite of nutrient species, faecal bacteria, and over 40 common pesticides. Results are reported annually in a technical report and non-technical "report-cards" for each stream.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This program is currently available and is intended to continue for the foreseeable future.

Who should apply for the program?

This program provides information to technical professionals and extension personnel across Alberta. Information is disseminated by the Conservation and Development Branch, regional extension staff, and the "Ropin' the Web" website. This program also provides technical expertise and information to partner programs (research, monitoring) as requested.

What funding is available?

This program provides technical expertise and data to producers, regional extension staff, watershed stewardship groups, water managers, technical professionals and other government agencies.

Who will deliver the service?

AAFRD in partnership with Alberta Environment, Alberta Health and Wellness, and PFRA. The program is managed by Resource Management and Irrigation Division (Conservation and Development Branch).

Whom do I contact for more information?

Section Head, Farm Water Management
Conservation and Development Branch, AAFRD
#206, 7000 – 113 Street
Edmonton, AB T6H 5T6
Tel: 780 427-3747

Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) Program

What is the program objective?

The program is to provide technical expertise to support Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) programming in the province of Saskatchewan. For agricultural producers involved, EFP programming will increase their environmental awareness and provide a process for identifying and addressing environmental issues on their farms.

What are the expected results of the program?

Through partnership in program design and delivery activities with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and a third-party delivery agent, completion of agri-environmental farm plans will enhance farmers' awareness of environmental risks, mitigation strategies and benefits to their operations. A target of having 6 500 producers complete individual whole-farm EFPs by March 31, 2008 has been established. The province will also pilot the use of Equivalent Agri-Environmental Plans that involve group planning initiatives to address priority environmental issues.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

Saskatchewan has provided technical expertise to support the development of the Saskatchewan Agri-Environmental Scan and the Saskatchewan EFP workbook. The province is assisting in EFP program design, workshop facilitator training, communication activities and in the selection and detailing of beneficial management practices. Saskatchewan will contribute technical expertise to ensure that EFP workshops, the review of Environmental Farm Action Plans and the actual beneficial management practices adopted are consistent with principles outlined in the *National Model for Agriculture Planning for Environmental Action.*

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The allocation of provincial EFP technical expertise began in 2003 and will continue through to 2008. EFP workshops began in December 2004 and will continue over the term of the Agricultural Policy Framework agreement, in locations across the province.

Who should apply for the program?

Not applicable.

What funding is available and to whom?

$0.15 million in fiscal year 2003–04.

$0.15 million in fiscal year 2004–05.

Funding is provided to the Agri-Business Development Branch of Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food (SAF).

Who will deliver the service?

The program will be delivered through SAF staff in the Agri-Business Development Branch.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Manager, Environmental Programming
Agri-Business Development Branch
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food
3830 Thatcher Ave.
Saskatoon, SK S7K 2H6
Tel: 306 933-8116
E-mail: bhenley@agr.gov.sk.ca

Environmental Review and Technology Transfer Program

What is the program objective?

The Environmental Review and Technology Transfer Program will provide technical expertise to encourage the responsible management of agricultural operations by Saskatchewan producers, which will increase the sustainability of agricultural water and soils and enhance air and habitat quality.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to result in increased awareness and attention by agricultural producers in the way agricultural operations are sited and operated in a manner that:

- improves the quality, management and efficiency of use of agricultural water;
- enhances air quality;
- enhances soil sustainability; and
- supports biodiversity through habitat enhancement.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

The program provides technical support to agricultural operations including site characterization, facility design, nuisance and pollution control, waste and mortality management, waste treatment options and public process. The province also provides technical support to watershed management and water quality monitoring initiatives. Program technical support also helps to ensure the responsible use and commercial application of pesticides and the review of cases of improper pesticide management.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is currently available.

Who should apply for the program?

Program services are available to producers wishing to establish, expand or improve agricultural operations in the province of Saskatchewan.

What funding is available and to whom?

$1.5 million is available in fiscal year 2003–04.

$1.5 million is available in fiscal year 2004–05.

Funding is provided for staff resources at Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food (SAF) for staff resources to deliver the services described.

Who will deliver the service?

The program is delivered directly by SAF staff.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Manager, Agricultural Operations
Inspection and Regulatory Management Branch
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food
Room 201, 3085 Albert St.
Regina, SK S4S 0B1
Tel: 306 787-5465
E-mail: ajansen@agr.gov.sk.ca

Environmental Monitoring and Indicator Program

What is the program objective?

This program will identify environmental conditions and trends attributable to agriculture, contributing to agri-environmental indicators and increasing public awareness in Saskatchewan.

Program details have NOT been finalized.

What are the expected results of the program?

This program is under development.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program Description

This program is under development.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

Program design should be complete by September 30, 2005.

Who should apply for the program?

To be announced.

What funding is available and to whom?

$850 000 in fiscal year 2004–05.

Who will deliver the service?

To be announced.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Manager, Environmental Programming
Agri-Business Development Branch
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food
3830 Thatcher Avenue
Saskatoon, SK S7K 2H6
Tel: 306 933-8116
E-mail: bhenley@agr.gov.sk.ca

Crown Land Environmental Stewardship Program

What is the program objective?

The program will provide management and technical expertise to maintain the ecological integrity and to enhance the quality of soil, water and habitat on 2.8 million hectares of agricultural Crown land leases and provincial community pastures in Saskatchewan.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to:

- encourage use of sustainable management practices on all leases;
- integrate resource use plans for Crown lands;
- determine range plans that meet goal of long-term sustainability; and
- implement Biodiversity Action Plan on Crown lands.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program Description

Saskatchewan owns about 2.8 million hectares of agricultural land that is managed to meet goals related to the environment and agricultural use. Of this total, 1.3 million hectares have been identified as important wildlife habitat and are protected from sale or development. Program activities include requiring sustainable management practices on all leases, range planning, integrated resource use planning, land audits and range health monitoring. Program costs reflect technical expertise of provincial staff allocated to meeting environmental objectives.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is currently operating with no defined end date.

Who should apply for the program?

Not applicable.

What funding is available and to whom?

$1.567 million in fiscal year 2003–04.

$1.59 million in fiscal year 2004–05.

Funds are provided to the Lands Branch of Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food to deliver the services described.

Who will deliver the service?

Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food Lands Branch staff.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food
Room 201, 3085 Albert St.
Regina, SK S4S 0B1
Tel: 306 787-5154
E-mail: ghaase@agr.gov.sk.ca

Covering New Ground

What is the program objective?

The objective of the Covering New Ground program is to provide the financial resources necessary to carry out technology transfer activities through extending beneficial agri-environmental management practices to agricultural producers in Manitoba.

What are the expected results of the program?

Increased producer awareness of beneficial agri-environmental management practices leading to improved health of the agricultural ecosystem. By providing this support, the program assists producers and advances economic solutions to environmental challenges facing Manitoba producers.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

Covering New Ground is an existing program.

Program description

The program funds proposal-based applied investigation and communications activities within Manitoba in association with local delivery groups.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Local and provincial producer conservation organizations, provincial commodity organizations and Conservation Districts.

What funding is available?

$3.356 million in each of 2003–04, 2004–05 and 2005–06.

Who will deliver the service?

Manitoba Agriculture Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) staff.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Transition Programs Lead
MAFRI
401 York Ave., Room 811
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0P8
Tel: 204 945-3979
E-mail: gfearn@gov.mb.ca

Crop Diversification Centres

What is the program objective?

The objective of the program is to provide support to the Souris Valley and Parkland Crop Diversification Centres in Manitoba to carry out cropping trials.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program will support development of environmentally sound technologies for alternative and value-added crops grown under intensive production conditions. The program will focus on the enhancement of soil and water protection, especially the management of cropping inputs such as fertilizers and other nutrients, pest control, tillage and irrigation.

Is the program a new, existing or a transition program?

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives' (MAFRI) support of Crop Diversification Centres is an existing program.

Program description

MAFRI's staff will assist in the delivery of cropping trials at the Souris Valley and Parkland Crop Diversification Centres.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Not applicable.

What funding is available?

$0.150 million per year for staff and activities over 5 years.

Who will deliver the service?

MAFRI staff.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Lead, Environment Chapter
MAFRI
Carman, MB R0G 0J0
Tel: 204 745-5658
E-mail: lescott@gov.mb.ca

Applied Investigation — Crop Production Systems

What is the program objective?

The program provides staff and funding to carry out applied investigations in improved crop production systems in Manitoba.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to support projects related to environmentally sustainable crop production systems. It is expected to improved understanding of crop production systems that are environmentally sustainable and will contribute to overall protection of the agri-environment.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

Applied Investigation — Crop Production Systems is an existing program.

Program description

Designated Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) regional and provincial specialists and technicians will provide staff support for applied investigations into improved crop production systems.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Not applicable.

What funding is available?

$0.200 million per year for staff and activities over 5 years.

Who will deliver the service?

MAFRI staff in association with applied research organizations.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Lead, Environment Chapter
MAFRI
Carman, MB R0G 0J0
Tel: 204 745-5658
E-mail: lescott@gov.mb.ca

Irrigation Development

What is the program objective?

The Irrigation Development program provides financial support in Manitoba for engineering, environmental assessment, development and adoption of beneficial management practices for nutrient management and water conservation through irrigation. This funding will supplement federal funding available through the National Water Supply Enhancement Program (NWSEP).

What are the expected results of the program?

The expected results of the program are:

- irrigation feasibility studies conducted;
- sustainable irrigation technologies researched and identified; and
- water supply and distribution systems in Manitoba developed for the ultimate benefit of the agricultural industry.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

The Irrigation Development Program is a continuation of the Federal–Provincial Surplus Water Irrigation Initiative.

Program description

The program funds proposal based irrigation activities within Manitoba in association with local delivery groups.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program will be available for 3 years beginning fiscal year 2004–05.

Who should apply for the program?

Proposals will be solicited from, but not limited to, individuals, associations, commodity groups, local organizations, agribusiness and institutions.

What funding is available?

Provincial funding of $0.9675 million beginning fiscal year 2004–05.

Who will deliver the service?

A joint Canada–Manitoba Irrigation Coordination Committee will administer and manage program funds and resources in addition to developing specific objectives and criteria for eligible activities, approving projects, establishing roles and responsibility for project management, overseeing communications and coordinating activities with the NWSEP.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Transition Programs Lead
MAFRI
401 York Ave., Room 811
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0P8
Tel: 204 945-3979
E-mail: gfearn@gov.mb.ca

Manitoba Soil Survey

What is the program objective?

The objective of this program is to provide funding and staff resources to carry out detailed soil survey activities in Manitoba to facilitate environmental farm planning and improved environmental management.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to conduct soil surveys at a detailed scale for an additional 50 000 acres of agricultural land per year in Manitoba.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

Manitoba Soil Survey is an existing program.

Program description

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives' (MAFRI) soils inventory unit is comprised of professional and support staff (two specialists and four technicians) who carry out detailed soil surveys and produce related reports. Funding for this provincial matching contribution includes the base budget of the soils inventory unit.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Not applicable.

What funding is available?

$0.350 million per year for staff and survey activities over 5 years.

Who will deliver the service?

MAFRI soil survey staff will continue to carry out soil survey and produce related reports.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Lead, Environment Chapter
MAFRI
Carman, MB R0G 0J0
Tel: 204 745-5658
E-mail: lescott@gov.mb.ca

Technical Support

What is the program objective?

The objective of this program is to provide technical support to activities that increase environmental awareness and practice on Manitoba's farms.

What are the expected results of the program?

The expected results of the program are:

- agri-environmental issues identified; and
- increased adoption of Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs) that address those issues on Manitoba farms.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

Technical Support is an existing program.

Program description

Designated Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives' (MAFRI) provincial and regional specialists, and all agricultural representatives, will work with Farm Stewardship Association Manitoba (FSAM) to deliver Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) workshops. They will also assist producers in environmental farm planning, aid in the development of BMPs appropriate to provincial conditions, and assist producers in abiding by federal and provincial agri-environmental regulatory measures.

When will the program be available, end or transition

This program is ongoing. EFP producer workshops will begin in fall 2005.

Who should apply for the program?

Manitoba producers.

What funding is available?

$1.0 million per year on an in-kind basis as a provincial matching contribution over 5 years.

Who will deliver the services?

MAFRI staff will work directly with producers to support the EFP process and adoption of BMPs.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Lead, Environment Chapter
MAFRI
Carman, MB R0G 0J0
Tel: 204 745-5658
E-mail: lescott@gov.mb.ca

Technology Transfer

What is the program objective?

The objective of the program is to provide financial resources to carry out technology transfer activities to extend beneficial agri-environmental management practices to agricultural producers in Manitoba.

What are the expected results of the program?

The expected results of the program are:

- increased producer awareness of beneficial agri-environmental management practices, thereby improving the health of the agricultural ecosystem; and
- economic solutions provided to environmental challenges facing Manitoba producers.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

Technology Transfer is an existing program with the working title of Covering New Ground.

Program description

The program provides funding for proposal-based applied investigation and communications activities within the Manitoba in association with local delivery groups.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Local and provincial producer conservation organizations, provincial commodity organizations and Conservation Districts.

What funding is available?

$0.969 million for each of 2006–07 and 2007–08.

Who will deliver the service?

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiative staff.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Lead, Environment Chapter
MAFRI
Carman, MB R0G 0J0
Tel: 204 745-5658
E-mail: lescott@gov.mb.ca

Agri-Environmental Farm Planning

What is the program objective?

The Ontario Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) contributes to the adoption of environmentally beneficial management practices (BMP) by agricultural producers in the management of land, water, air and biodiversity.

What are the expected results of the program?

Increased awareness and adoption of environmentally BMPs by agricultural producers in the management of land, water, air and biodiversity.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program. The program has been in operation since 1991.

Program description

The Ontario EFP is a voluntary education and awareness program designed to help Ontario farmers prepare confidential and self-administered environmental risk assessments for their farms. Action plans are then developed to deal with the concerns identified. These plans are peer-reviewed and feedback is provided to individual farmers.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

It is anticipated that the EFP program will be available to Ontario farmers in 2005. The program ends in 2008. For dates and locations of specific training opportunities, please consult the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA) at 1 800 265-9751 or view the website at www.ontariosoilcrop.org/.

Who should apply for the program?

The program is intended to provide environmental education and awareness training for all types of farming operations.

What funding is available?

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) provides cost shared funding for eligible projects through the (APF).

Who will deliver the service?

Workshops will be organized and delivered by the OSCIA. BMP technical content will be presented by Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF) staff.

Whom do I contact for more information?

For more information please contact the
Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA)
at 1 800 265-9751 or view the website at
www.ontariosoilcrop.org/.

Education and Technology Transfer – Best Management Practice (BMP) Publications

What is the program objective?

The Best Management Practice (BMP) publication series provides information to farmers and rural landowners that will encourage the adoption of practices that will result in the conservation of soil, water and other natural resources.

What are the expected results of the program?

Increased awareness and adoption of environmentally beneficial management practices by agricultural producers and rural landowners in the management of land, water, air and biodiversity.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

Each BMP publication focuses on a specific subject area as indicated by the title (e.g. Buffer Strips, Water Wells, Livestock and Poultry Waste Management). They provide an introduction to the subject matter, a discussion of management and environmental concerns, a list of proven, practical and affordable options and references to more detailed information.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The development of new publications is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Farmers and rural landowners.

What funding is available?

Not applicable.

Who will deliver the service?

Technical coordination is provided by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF). Single copies of each title are available at no charge to Ontario farmers from regional OMAF offices. Bulk orders or single copy purchases are made by contacting the Ontario Federation of Agriculture.

Whom do I contact for more information?

For more information please contact the:

Manager, BMP
Ontario Federation of Agriculture
40 Eglinton Ave. E., 5th flr.
Toronto, ON M4P 3B1,
Tel: 416 485-3333
On line order forms :
www.gov.on.ca/OMAF/english/products/best.html .

Information Management System / Data Collection Analysis

What is the program objective?

The objective of this activity is to improve the collection, management, maintenance and accessibility of geo-spatial data related to the agri-food sector. Information management and system development activities are primarily focused on the Ministry of Agriculture and Food's nutrient management, emergency management and land use/environmental management program areas.

What are the expected results of the program?

This activity is intended to provide the necessary geo-spatial data and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) tools to provide effective delivery of the nutrient management, emergency management and land use/environmental management program areas.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This activity is undertaken in support of existing programs delivered by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF).

Program description

This involves several complementary activities:

- development of GIS applications and analytical tools to support the development and delivery of the nutrient management program;
- development of GIS applications and provision of data management services to support the OMAF's ability to respond to agri-food emergencies;
- on-going efforts to improve the quality and accessibility of agricultural resource data such as soils mapping, tile drainage mapping and constructed drainage mapping;
- providing in-house GIS analytical services to support program development and delivery; and
- development of data sharing arrangements with other provincial ministries, the federal government, municipalities and agri-food stakeholders.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This is an on-going program.

Who should apply for the program?

Not applicable.

What funding is available?

No new funding available.

Who will deliver the service?

The OMAF delivers this activity in partnership with other ministries and stakeholders.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Not applicable.

Nutrient Management

What is the program objective?

The purpose of the Nutrient Management Act is to provide for the management of "nutrients in ways that will enhance protection of the natural environment and provide a sustainable future for agricultural operations and rural development".

What are the expected results of the program?

The Nutrient Management Act, the nutrient management regulation, Ontario Regulation 267/03, and related programs will result in:

- Increased adoption of environmentally beneficial nutrient management practices by agricultural producers;
- Training, technical assistance, education and awareness related to nutrient management practices; and
- Science and research related to verification of existing standards and possible new standards.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

The program was initiated in 2001 and has been developing over the last three years.

Program description

Nutrient management standards setting and regulation are undertaken under the Nutrient Management Act. Ontario Regulation 267/03 is maintained and amended from time-to-time. Training, approvals, and technical assistance are provided to support actions by farms to meet the requirements of the Nutrient Management Act. Education and awareness programs provide information about nutrient management to a broad range of audiences. Under a related program, the Nutrient Management Financial Assistance Program, financial assistance is provided to existing large livestock farmers to meet requirements of the Nutrient Management Act. Science and research is undertaken to verify standards in the regulation and to assess the need for additional standards.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

It is an existing program.

Who should apply for the program?

Large livestock farms that must comply with the Nutrient Management Act can apply to the related Nutrient Management Financial Assistance Program.

What funding is available?

The Nutrient Management Financial Assistance Program provides cost-shared funding for specific nutrient management practices.

Who will deliver the service?

The Ontario Ministries of the Environment and Agriculture and Food deliver the nutrient management program. The Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association delivers the Nutrient Management Financial Assistance Program on behalf of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food nutrient management

Toll Free line: 1 866 242-4460
Website: www.gov.on.ca/OMAF/english/agops/

Prime-Vert Program

What is the program objective?

The objective of this program is to promote and disseminate good farming practices and to support farm operators in complying with environmental laws, regulations and policies. This program also aims to help them adapt their production systems to conserve resources and improve the farm environment, especially through the use of environmental farm plans.

What are the expected results of the program?

Accelerated implementation of technologies and practices that conserve resources, protect the environment and reduce hazards in the following areas:

- manure and pesticide management;
- soil and water conservation; and
- improvement and dissemination of agri-environmental knowledge.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program. In 2004, a renewed Prime-Vert program was introduced to better harmonize environmental protection objectives with the most recent farming practices.

Program description

The program is made up of the following seven components:

- **manure storage structures**
- surplus management technologies
- **manure application equipment**
- **agri-environmental advisory services**
- collective agri-environmental advisory services
- **reduction of non-point source pollution**
- support to the phytosanitary strategy

It should be noted that Quebec's contribution to the environment component of the Canada-Quebec Implementation Agreement for the Agricultural Policy Framework deals only with the four components identified above in bold letters.

The provisions for financial and technical assistance vary depending on the individual components. For manure storage structures, surplus management technologies, manure application equipment, reduction of non-point source pollution and support to the phytosanitary strategy, financial assistance covers from 50 per cent to 90 per cent of eligible costs. Under the agri-environmental advisory services component, funding can cover up to the full cost of the fees paid by a farming operation. The collective agri-environmental advisory services component provides for a lump-sum payment to a group as well as funding equal to 70 per cent of related costs invoiced.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The Prime-Vert program has been in effect since April 1, 2004.

Who should apply for the program?

Eligibility varies depending on the program component. For the manure storage structures component, eligible clients include operators of farm businesses that must comply with regulations dealing with manure storage. For other elements of this component, the farm business must have one or more manure storage structures for which a certificate of authorization was issued. Farm businesses or legally formed groups of farm businesses are eligible under the surplus management technologies, manure application equipment and reduction of non-point source pollution components. The agri-environmental advisory services and collective agri-environmental advisory services components are available to farming operations that have joined to form agri-environmental advisory clubs or to groups recognized by the Quebec Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAPAQ). Finally, the support to the phytosanitary strategy component is directed to members of technical supervision clubs, agri-environmental clubs or associations of farm businesses recognized by MAPAQ, as well as members of quasi-public or private research centres or organizations.

What funding is available and to whom?

Under the Canada–Quebec Implementation Agreement for the Agricultural Policy Framework, Quebec will provide funding of $28 million over 5 years for the manure application equipment, agri-environmental advisory services and reduction of non-point source pollution components.

Canada's share under the agreement totals $46.3 million. Funding from the National Farm Stewardship Program is available through manure application equipment and reduction of non-point source pollution components of Prime-Vert. Funding from the Environmental Farm Planning Program, which funds the development of the environmental farm plans (EFPs), is available through *Conseil pour le développement de l'agriculture du Québec (CDAQ)*.

Who will deliver the service ?

Administration of this program is the responsibility of regional offices of the provincial department.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Sylvain Tremblay, Head of Service
Agro-Environmental Practices and Technologies
Environment and Sustainable Development Branch
Tel: 418 380-2150, extension 3173
E-mail: sylvain.tremblay@agr.gouv.qc.ca

Agricultural Environment Management Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of the Agricultural Environment Management Initiative (AEMI) is to facilitate the conservation and enhancement of natural resources utilized by the New Brunswick agriculture sector to minimize the impact of agricultural practices on the environment.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to result in:

- increased adoption of environmentally Beneficial Management Practices (BMP) by agricultural producers in the management of land, water, air and biodiversity; and
- increased awareness of agri-environmental issues by agricultural producers.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

AEMI includes the following programs for which funding is being provided to individual producers and farm organizations to carry out initiatives:

1) Nutrient Management Program
2) On-farm Stewardship Program
3) Soil Conservation Program
4) Integrated Pest Management Program
5) Agro-Environmental Club Program
6) Strategic Initiatives Program.

Eligible activities also include implementation of BMPs, applied research and environmental awareness initiatives.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

Program is available immediately and will continue until March 31, 2006.

Who should apply for the program?

- Awareness activities under the Nutrient Management Program and Integrated Pest Management Program: Farm organizations.
- On-farm activities under the On-farm Stewardship Program and Soil Conservation Program: Individual farm units.
- Agro-Environmental Club Program: The Fédération des Agriculteurs et Agricultrices Francophones du Nouveau-Brunswick, the Agricultural Producers Association of New Brunswick, the New Brunswick Soil and Crop Improvement Association and their regional chapters.
- Research activities under the On-farm Stewardship Program, Soil Conservation Program, Integrated Pest Management Program and activities under the Strategic Initiative Program: Any private organization, institution or individual involved in research or innovation activity that has the potential to improve the environmental sustainability of NB's agriculture sector are eligible.

What funding is available?

Assistance provided for on-farm implementation of BMPs ranges from 30 per cent to 50 per cent. Project funding caps for implementation of BMPs range from $2 000 to $30 000. Funding for applied research is a maximum of 60 per cent to a cap of $30 000 in assistance. Awareness activities and strategic initiatives may receive up to 100 per cent assistance.

Who will deliver the service?

N.B. Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture staff.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Manager, Land and Environment
850 Lincoln Rd.
Fredericton, NB A3B 9H8
Tel: 506 453-2109
E-mail: bruce.kinnie@gnb.ca

Agro-Environmental Club Program

What is the program objective?

The objective of New Brunswick's Agro-Environmental Club Program is to increase producer awareness of environmental issues, to assist members in completing Environmental Farm Plans and Nutrient Management Plans and to facilitate the adoption of sustainable farming practices.

What are the expected results of the program:

- New Brunswick producers will gain increased awareness of environmental issues.
- New Brunswick producers will adopt of sustainable farming practices.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

The initiative will provide annual financial assistance in support of the activities of approved Agro-Environmental Clubs.

When will the program be available, end, transition?

The program will be available until March 31, 2008.

Who should apply for the program?

Eligible applicants under this program are the Fédération des Agriculteurs et Agricultrices Francophones du Nouveau-Brunswick, the Agriculture Producers Association of New Brunswick, the New Brunswick Soil and Crop Improvement Association and their regional chapters.

What funding is available?

Up to a maximum annual contribution of $40 000 per approved club.

Who will deliver the service?

The Initiative will be delivered through the Land and Environment Branch of the New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Further information and application forms are available from:

Administrator, APF Agreement
N.B. Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture
P. O. Box 6000
Fredericton, NB E3B 5H1

Nova Scotia Enhanced Environmental Farm Plans Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of the Nova Scotia Enhanced Environmental Farm Plans (EEFP) Initiative is to enable a voluntary and confidential process used by individual farmers to identify and address environmental risks associated with farm business activities and to develop management and action plans to mitigate the risks.

What are the expected results of the program?

The EEFP Initiative program allows farmers to set priorities for actions that address on-farm environmental concerns, as well as those which serve the public interest. Expected results include:

- a healthier environment for farm families and the public;
- confirmation of compliance to current environmental regulatory requirements and accepted practice for Nova Scotia agriculture;
- identification of sources of environmental risk and provides practical, cost-effective solutions to risk;
- promotion of environmental stewardship and identification of farmers as good custodians of the environment; and
- enabling participants to access funds for environmental improvement projects.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

The initiative has been offered by the province, in cooperation with the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture, since 1997.

Program description

The EEFP is a voluntary initiative that helps farmers identify and assess environmental risk on their property and to incorporate environmental considerations into their everyday business decisions, rather than addressing environmental issues in a reactive sense.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The initiative is ongoing and available on an annual basis, subject to approval of provincial budget.

Who should apply for the program?

An eligible applicant under the initiative is one who:

a) has a current registration under the *Farm Registration Act*; and

b) generated an annual gross farming income of $10 000 or more based on the most recent completed year-end financial statements. The income requirement is waived for new entrants.

What funding is available?

This is a free service for participants, participation in the EEFP Initiative enables access to funds in other programs for environmental improvement projects.

Who will deliver the service?

The Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture provides the service in partnership with Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Environmental Farm Plan Program Coordinator
Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture
176 College Road
PO Box 550
Truro, NS B2N 5A6
Tel: 902 893-2293
E-mail: nsfa@tru.eastlink.ca
Website: www.nsfa-fane.ca

Sustainable Resource Conservation Program (SRCP)

What is the program objective?

The goals of the Sustainable Resource Conservation Program (SRCP) include reduction in risk of water contamination from agricultural practices, improvement and protection of the quality of the soil of Prince Edward Island's agricultural land and reduction of the risk and use of pesticides.

What are the expected results of the program?

The SRCP is designed to assist producers in making their farm operations more productive and sustainable, while achieving compliance with any new or existing environmental protection legislation.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a transition program.

Program description

The program will provide financial and technical assistance for a wide range of on-farm conservation projects, which will protect the quality of the Island's water and soil resources. Projects that will be funded under this program include manure storage, fencing cattle out of streams, planting trees, fuel storage, soil erosion reduction structures, developing nutrient management plans and implementing integrated pest management protocols.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

Deadline for completed applications for each year is the same: October 31.

Who should apply for the program?

Assistance will be available to farmers and owners of agricultural land.

What funding is available?

An Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) must be completed for all agricultural land owned by the applicant before applying to the program.

The funding available to farmers and owners of agricultural land, includes:

- a financial incentive for the cost of carrying out sustainable on-farm practices as the result of completing an EFP;
- technical assistance to carry out sustainable on-farm practices.

The maximum assistance that can be given to one eligible applicant in the current fiscal year will be up to $35 000.

No multi-year projects will be considered.

Who will deliver the service?

P.E.I. Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture.

Whom do I contact for more information?

SRCP Program Administrator
P.E.I. Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture
P.O. Box 1600,
Charlottetown, PE C1A 7N3
Tel: 902 894-0340 or (toll-free) 1 866 734-3276
Fax: 902 368-5661
E-mail: pareardon@gov.pe.ca

Nutrient Management Planning Program

What is the program objective?

The objective is to promote awareness and use of nutrient management planning on Prince Edward Island farms.

What are the expected results of the program?

Nutrient Management Planning helps optimize the use of on-farm nutrients to prevent excessive nutrient build-up, to maintain soil health for successful crop production and to reduce environmental risks.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

Nutrient management planning promotes efficient nutrient cycling on farms with minimal impacts on the environment. A nutrient management plan requires detailed farm information on crop management, crop available nutrients in the soil, soil additives and animal nutrition programs.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

Deadline for completed applications for the current year is October 31.

Who should apply for the program?

An individual, partnership or corporation that is engaged in farming in P.E.I.

What funding is available?

An incentive payment of $5 per acre on a maximum of 200 acres is available.

Who will deliver the service?

P.E.I. Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Agriculture Resource Development Coordinator
P.E.I. Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture
P.O. Box 1600,
Charlottetown, PE C1A 7N3
Tel: 902 368-6366
Fax: 902 368-5661
E-mail: blthompson@gov.pe.ca

Pesticide Reduction Pilot Program

What is the program objective?

The program is to demonstrate options for reducing the use of pesticides in commercial agriculture in Prince Edward Island.

What are the expected results of the program?

Growers agree to document pesticide reduction progress by keeping accurate spray and scouting records. Projects or demonstrations must be a new innovation on the farm that will help reduce the overall use of pesticides in the operation.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

Limited funding is available to provide growers with 100 per cent coverage on eligible expenses to implement an innovation that will result in an overall pesticide reduction on their farm. Projects will be assessed according to their potential for pesticide reduction.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

Applications must be received by April 30 of the current year.

Who should apply for the program?

A producer, partnership or corporation that is engaged in farming in P.E.I.

What funding is available?

Funding will cover 100 per cent of eligible expenses up to $2 500.

Who will deliver the service?

P.E.I. Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture.

Whom do I contact for more information?

IPM Specialist
P.E.I. Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture
P.O. Box 1600
Charlottetown PE C1A 7N3
Tel: 902 368-6573
Fax: 902 368-5729
E-mail: rmcheverie@gov.pe.ca

Environmental Farm Plans Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of the Environment Farm Plans (EFP) Initiative is to provide support for developing and implementing on-farm and regional environmental scans and plans in Newfoundland and Labrador.

What are the expected results of the program?

The expected results of the initiative are:

- environmental farm scans and farm plans made for all participating agriculture operations; and
- development and implementation of regional environmental farm plans.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the Department of Natural Resources will provide support for developing and implementing of on-farm and regional environmental scans and plans. Completion and implementation of these plans will be the primary focus for available funding with committed resources to Environmental Farm Planning, the National Farm Stewardship Program, Greencover Canada Program, National Water Supply Expansion Program and the National Land and Water Information Service to support and implement Environmental Farm Planning in the province.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is currently available.

Who should apply for the program?

Producers, processors, partnerships, corporations and cooperatives may be eligible based on reported gross farm sales.

What funding is available?

Applicants may be eligible for a maximum funding limit of $10 000 per year.

Who will deliver the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Director
Tel: 709 637-2082
E-mail: jeffwhalen@gov.nl.ca

GIS Database Management Initiative

What is the program objective?

This initiative allows for the creation and maintenance of a spatial database using Geographical Information System (GIS) analysis. The database will help process mapping of agricultural land use, soils mapping and geo-referenced data collection from an on-farm scale to a provincial scale in Newfoundland and Labrador.

What are the expected results of the program?

Development, management and analysis of mapping and related data needed for improved environmental farm management and planning.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

The initiative supports the establishment of a centralized database for on-farm scale to provincial scale land use and soils mapping.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is currently available.

Who should apply for the program?

Government agencies.

Who delivers the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Integrated Pest Management Initiative

What is the program objective?

This initiative provides support, advice and skills to farmers in Newfoundland and Labrador to improve pest and pesticide management in the agricultural industry through pesticide applicator training programs. Access to information about alternative pest control options, and the development of skills in Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for crop and livestock pests will also be assisted.

What are the expected results of the program?

The expected results are that:

- producers will be fully qualified in pest control use; and
- implementated integrated pest management will be province-wide.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

The initiative supports activities which are identified in the farm's environmental farm plan, that pose significant risks to the province's environment.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Agricultural producers, partnerships, corporations, cooperatives, governments and not-for-profit organizations.

What funding is available?

Assistance may provide up to 50 per cent of actual costs for individual agricultural producers, processors, partnerships, or corporations. Up to 75 per cent of actual costs for cooperatives or farm groups representing three or more agribusinesses; and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and not-for-profit organizations could be provided.

Who delivers the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Nuisance Management Initiative

What is the program objective?

This initiative provides financial, technical and logistical support to producers in Newfoundland and Labrador and agriculture organizations affected by odours, dust, particulate emissions, noise, nuisance wildlife and related complaints. Support ranges from assisting specific on-farm cases to managing nuisance issues on a municipal or provincial scale.

What are the expected results of the program?

Reduction in claims and complaints from nuisance issues.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

The initiative supports activities that are considered priorities identified in the environmental farm planning process. These activities include nuisance wildlife control and implementation of applicable Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs) as it relates to odours, dust, particulate emissions and noise.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Agricultural producers, processors, partnerships, corporations, cooperatives, government and not-for-profit organizations.

What funding is available?

Assistance may be provided up to 50 per cent of actual costs for individual agricultural producers, processors, partnerships, or corporations; up to 75 per cent of actual costs for cooperatives or farm groups representing three or more agribusinesses; and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and not-for-profit organizations.

Who will deliver the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Soil Drainage and Water Resources Management Initiative

What is the program objective?

This initiative provides technical and financial support to agricultural producers in Newfoundland and Labrador to manage soil water content to enhance agricultural production and soil integrity. The program also supports mitigating environmental impacts on agricultural production such as controlling runoff and decreasing fertilizer usage.

What are the expected results of the program?

The initiative is expected to result in:

- increased acreage of well-drained agriculture land province-wide; and
- decreased environmental impact of agricultural production on provincial water resources.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an active program.

Program description

The initiative supports activities, which are identified in the environmental farm plan, that address issues posing significant risks to the province's environment.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Agricultural producers, partnerships, corporations, cooperatives, governments and not-for-profit organizations.

Who will deliver the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Soil Resources Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of the Soil Resources initiative is to provide technical support to the agriculture industry to deal with environmental issues related to the province's soil resources in Newfoundland and Labrador.

What are the expected results of the program?

The initiative is expected to result in:

- detailed soil resource data for farms and Agricultural Development areas throughout the province collected; and
- detailed soil resource maps developed.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an active program.

Program description

This initiative will also involve the collection and dissemination of data useful to other initiatives. The Department of Natural Resources will coordinate this initiative for data collection and detailed soil mapping in farming areas throughout the province.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Producers, processors, partnerships, corporations and cooperatives may be eligible based on reported gross farm sales.

What funding is available?

New entrants may be eligible for a maximum funding limit of $10 000 per year.

Who will deliver the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Director
Tel: 709 637-2082
E-mail: jeffwhalen@gov.nl.ca

Canada–Yukon Environment Programs

Environment programs in the Yukon are designed to accelerate efforts to reduce agricultural risks and provide benefits to the water resources, soil, air and biodiversity. The first step in the comprehensive Yukon Territory environmental program was the territorial scan. This scan was completed in May 2004 and identified environmental risks associated with soil, water, air and biodiversity. The next step is the completion of individual Environmental Farm Plans which identify on-farm risks.

There are two environment programs in the Yukon territory:

- Canada–Yukon Environmental Farm Plans (EFP)
- Canada–Yukon Farm Stewardship Program

What are the programs' objectives?

Canada–Yukon Environmental Farm Plans (EFP): Agriculture Branch and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada staff will provide technical assistance to producers who are interested in developing EFPs. Following approval of the EFPs, a producer can apply to the Canada–Yukon Farm Stewardship Program for incentive funding to implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) to address environmental risks identified in the EFPs.

Canada–Yukon Farm Stewardship Program: Addresses risks identified in the EFPs, builds awareness about environmental problems in and around farmland and provides mechanisms to reduce potential agri-environmental potential risks. The incentive funding available under this program includes the Critical Areas component of the GreenCover Canada program as well as the beneficial management practices portion of GreenCover's Shelterbelt component.

What funding is available and to whom?

Canada–Yukon Environmental Farm Plans: No direct funding is provided under this program. Producers who would like a planning advisor to contact them to develop an EFP, should contact:

Agriculture Branch
Room 320 - 300 Main Street
Elijah Smith Building
Whitehorse, YT
Tel: 867 667-5838
Fax: 867 393-6222
E-mail: agriculture@gov.yk.ca

Canada–Yukon Farm Stewardship Program: BMP categories receive varying amounts of funding. The amount of program funding received by a single farm over the term of the program should not exceed $15 000.

Who do I contact for more information?

For Farm Stewardship Program, contact:
408 - 1800 Hamilton Street
Regina, SK S4P 4L2
For assistance in completing an application, please call:
1 800 667-8567

Food Safety and Quality Programs

Through policy and program development and research, in collaboration with key partners at federal departments and agencies, such as Health Canada (HC), the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and the Canadian Grain Commission (CGC), provincial governments, industry and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the Food Safety and Quality (FSQ) priority works toward achieving the following goals:

- protecting human health by reducing exposure to hazards;
- increasing consumer confidence in the safety and quality of food produced in Canada;
- enabling industry to meet or exceed agri-food safety and quality; and
- providing value-added opportunities through the adoption of food safety and quality systems.

The Government of Canada, in partnership with provinces and territories, is supporting the development of national, integrated food safety, traceability and food quality systems throughout the agri-food chain from field to fork.

The Government of Canada is working with provinces and territories, farmers and industry to build on existing food safety measures while undertaking new measures to enable the tracing of food products back to the farm, improve food quality and share critical information.

These measures will improve the sector's ability to identify and respond to food safety issues and consumer demands, while improving market access and opportunities for the sector.

Activities under the FSQ priority include:

- participating in value-chain round tables as a new mechanism for co-ordination;
- developing systems to support food safety, food quality and traceability;
- developing policy approaches to certification and recognition;
- improving understanding of food quality and safety expectations in the marketplace;
- developing communication approaches to enhance consumer confidence in the quality and safety of food;
- facilitating collaboration of government, industry and academic partners for improved coordination of research activities, technology transfer and assessment of research implications of food issues;
- developing new scientific knowledge, innovative tools and technologies to enhance the safety and quality of agri-food produced and processed in Canada; and
- supporting an industry-led, integrated approach to development and implementation of food safety and quality systems along the agri-food chain through the Canadian Food Safety and Quality Program.

Federal Program

- Canadian Food Safety and Quality Program (CFSQP)
    - Systems Development
    - On-Farm Implementation
    - Food Safety Initiative (unannounced)

Provincial and Territorial Programs

Alberta

- Food Safety Process Control Systems for Small and Medium Food Processing Establishments (SME), Transportation, Distribution and Storage Industries
- Food Safety Surveillance
- HACCP in Provincially Licensed Meat and Dairy Facilities
- On-Farm Food Safety

Saskatchewan

- Food Safety and Quality Program Delivery
- Saskatchewan Food Safety Training Program
- Value Chain Program

Manitoba

- Food Quality Program
- Food Safety Training
- On-Farm Food Safety Program
- Government Systems for Integrated Policy Development

Ontario

- HACCP Advantage
- On-Farm Food Safety Strategy for Ontario
- Ontario Industry/Government Traceability – Premises Identification and Registration
- Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food Research Programs – Food Program
- Risk Assessments/Baselines

Quebec

- Traceability Initiative.

New Brunswick

- New Brunswick Agri-Food Safety Initiative
- New Brunswick Food Strategy Initiative

Nova Scotia

- Nova Scotia Regulatory Compliance Food and Farm Safety

Prince Edward Island

- FoodTrust of Prince Edward Island

Newfoundland and Labrador

- Food Safety and Food Quality Program
  - Data Management Initiative
  - On-Farm Food Safety Initiative
  - Bio-Safety Initiative
  - Risk Assessment Initiative
  - Food Strategies Initiative
  - Regulatory Compliance of Food and Farm Safety Initiative
  - Traceability Initiative
  - Specific Disease Studies on Food-Borne Illnesses
- Northern Agri-Foods Initiative

Yukon

- Canada–Yukon Food Safety and Quality Programs

Canadian Food Safety and Quality Program (CFSQP)

What is the program objective?

The objective of the program is to assist industry in developing and implementing government-recognized national food safety, traceability, and food quality systems throughout the agri-food continuum, in support of the following outcome goals for Food Safety and Quality, agreed to by federal–provincial–territorial Ministers by:

- protecting human health by reducing exposure to food hazards;
- increasing consumer confidence in the safety and quality of food produced in Canada through enhanced transparency and knowledge of systems used to safeguard Canadian food safety and quality; and
- providing value-added opportunities through the adoption of food safety and food quality systems that support the Canada brand.

What are the expected results of the program?

Following the implementation of the Canadian Food Safety Quality Program (CFSQP), these results are expected to be achieved:

- development and adoption of industry-led and government recognized national on-farm food safety process control systems by all commodities in the primary production sector;
- development and participation in national food safety systems, developed by industry and recognized by government, by other sectors of the agri-food continuum;
- development and government recognition of national food quality process control systems at a minimum, in sectors where required as a result of market specifications; and,
- significant increase in the number of commodities that have developed Food Safety and Quality systems, including traceability.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

The new Canadian Food Safety and Quality Program (CFSQP) is the evolution of the two food safety programs that ended on March 31, 2004: the Canadian On-Farm Food Safety Program (COFFSP) and the Canadian Food Safety Adaptation Program (CFSAP).

COFFSP provided support to national commodity groups to develop strategies and tools to educate producers and to implement national on-farm food safety initiatives.

The focus of CFSAP was on national associations involved directly or indirectly in the production, marketing, distribution and preparation of food and provided support for the development of risk management strategies, tools and systems to enhance food safety throughout the total food chain.

CFSQP will offer funding to industry to facilitate the development and implementation of government-recognized food safety, food quality and traceability systems under three components: Systems Development, On-Farm Implementation and Food Safety Initiative.

Program description

Through a partnership arrangement, CFSQP offers funding to industry to facilitate the development and implementation of government-recognized food safety, food quality and traceability systems under two components. The program is expected to ultimately reach all participants in the agri-food sector who produce, process or distribute food and agricultural products. Specific activities include:

A) **Systems Development** ($62 million) supports national food safety systems which are Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) based and include, for example, production practices that anticipate and prevent hazards that might occur during food production; and, effective tracking system links between product and producer, to ensure rapid resolution of problems, which arise in the food supply chain. In the quality areas, support is currently provided for strategy development.

B) **On-Farm Implementation** ($80 million) supports putting in place national food safety and traceability systems at the farm level through national commodity association. Activities include support for producer workshops, on-farm technical support, and purchase of on-farm food safety equipment identified within the technical review stage of the Canadian on-farm food safety recognition process managed by CFIA.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The CFSQP: Systems Development component was launched December 10, 2003.

The CFSQP: On-Farm Implementation component was launched April 13, 2004.

Who should apply for the program?

Canadian national non-profit associations or groups that are involved directly or indirectly in producing, marketing, distributing or preparing food; or a Canadian regional non-profit association or group that is not represented by entities at the national level and that can demonstrate its ability to deliver national initiative(s) can apply under the systems development component.

What funding is available?

Total funding for the two components of CFSQP over the five fiscal years is $142 million:

- Systems development — $62 million;
- On-Farm Implementation — $80 million.

Who will deliver the service?

Systems Development (food safety, food quality and traceability) encompasses both on farm and off-farm. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada will deliver the on-farm and off-farm food quality and traceability elements, as well as the off-farm food safety portion. The Canadian Federation of Agriculture will deliver the on-farm food safety portion.

The delivery mechanism for On-Farm Implementation will be national producer organizations.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Director, Food Safety and Quality Program Division
AAFC
Room 415, Sir John Carling Bldg.
930 Carling Avenue
Ottawa, ON K1A 0C5
Tel: 613 759-1000
E-mail: pcsqa@agr.gc.ca

Food Safety Process Control Systems for Small and Medium Food-Processing Establishments (SME), Transportation, Distribution and Storage Industries

What is the program objective?

Food-safety process control systems for small and medium-sized food-processing establishments, transportation, distribution, and storage industries in Alberta will be supported as these industries work to implement and audit Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP)-based food safety systems.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program will provide measures that:

- will help processors meet and exceed market demands by retailers and meet the demands of consumers at home and abroad; and
- will strengthen the food safety system in Canada.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

Over the next 5 – 8 years HACCP and HACCP-based food-processing control systems will become the industry standard for food processing and handling. Currently only federal or private programs exist for recognition of HACCP in a food-processing establishment. Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development is working with other provinces and the federal government to develop a national HACCP system suited for small and medium food-processing establishments, transportation distribution and food storage industries.

Program description

Federal, provincial and territorial meetings of representatives of Departments of Agriculture will develop the minimal national criteria and recognition processes for a National HACCP system. Food Safety Specialists of Agriculture, Agri-Food and Rural Development will provide coaching and guidance for food processors who wish and are able to develop HACCP and HACCP-based processing systems in their plants.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

Coaching and guidance is already available. HACCP recognition should be available by 2005.

Who should apply for the program?

All non-federally registered food-processing establishments, food transporters, storage facilities and distribution centres.

What funding is available?

Not determined yet.

Who will deliver the service?

Food Safety Division of Alberta Agri-Food and Rural Development (AAFRD) will provide coaching. Private contractors are available for developing the site-specific program.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Food Safety Division
Agri-Food Systems Branch
AAFRD
Tel: 780 427-4054.

Let the receptionist know your location and operation type and she will direct you to the specialist in your area.

Food Safety Surveillance

What is the program objective?

This program is to provide baseline information about the safety of Alberta produced food.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program will result in knowledge about the risk factors that contribute to hazards in food production and processing.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

The program is existing and evolving.

Program description

Every year the Food Safety Division of Alberta Agri-Food and Rural Development (AAFRD) uses scientific expertise and consultation with industry and awareness of international events to determine the Animal Health and Food Safety hazard surveillance priorities in the province. Teams develop 3- to 5-year goals in this area and partner with industry to develop and resource surveillance projects. These projects enhance the industries' knowledge about food safety hazards in food production and processing as well as supports the access of live animals and animal products to markets requiring freedom of disease information.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing. A formal consultative process is being developed.

Who should apply for the program?

Not applicable. Interested parties should contact below.

What funding is available?

Funding is shared between industry and national and provincial funding agencies and programs.

Who will deliver the service?

Food Safety Division of AAFRD leads the development of projects while partnering with industry and other government agencies.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Food Safety Division
Agri-Food Systems Branch
AAFRD
Tel: 780 427-6535.

HACCP in Provincially Licensed Meat and Dairy Facilities

What are the programs objectives?

The objectives of the program are that:

- Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) systems will be adopted in provincially licensed meat processing and dairy processing facilities in Alberta; and
- specialists and inspectors coach facilities to go beyond current legislated standards to develop an auditable food safety process control system in their plants.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program will result in:

- maintained and increased market access by meat and dairy processors in Alberta;
- the control of potential foodborne hazards related to all stages of the food chain;
- properly trained individuals that understand their role and can effectively fulfill their responsibilities within the HACCP system; and
- auditable and verifiable food safety process control systems.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an enhancement to an ongoing program that began in 1996 with the adoption of Meat Facility Standards in the abattoirs.

Program description

Meat and Dairy facilities already inspected by Regulatory Services, Food Safety Division, AAFRD have access to a food safety specialist who can provide training for management and staff in a facility as well as the information for a facility to develop an auditable HACCP system.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is currently available and will continue to be offered for the foreseeable future.

Who should apply for the program?

All provincially inspected meat and dairy facilities.

What funding is available?

Programs are currently being developed by the national committee overseeing this chapter of the Agricultural Policy Framework.

Who will deliver the service?

Food Safety Specialists.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Your current Meat or Dairy inspector from Alberta Agriculture Food and Rural Development.

On-Farm Food Safety

What is the program objective?

The desire to reduce the risks and control the safety and quality of food has led to the development of On-Farm Food Safety (OFFS) programs and government recognition of these programs.

The purpose of these programs is to document the safe food practices implemented on the farm and to reassure both the processor and consumer that the products supplied are safe and of high quality.

What are the expected results of the program?

The results will be:

- increased consumer awareness and expectations of safety along with the ability to detect and link food safety problems to a particular processor, farmer or activity. There is every reason to believe these trends will continue; and
- producers will perceive the importance of food safety standards and follow guidelines that are relevant to their industry.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

Canada began developing initiatives for OFFS programs in 1997. Funded by the federal government, the Canadian Federation of Agriculture has coordinated Canadian OFFS program development. Over 14 national commodity organizations, representing over 33 000 Alberta producers, have received funding for the development of OFFS programs.

Program description

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) leads a national review process that results in the government recognition of the OFFS programs and their management systems.

OFFS programs are based on the seven principles of Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) outlined by the World Health Organization's Codex Alimentarius Commission.

While the programs are voluntary, there is increasing pressure on producers from processors, wholesalers, and retailers for products to be produced under auditable food safety programs.

National OFFS programs currently being implemented in Alberta include: Bison, Beef, Dairy, Horticulture, Chicken, Turkey, Table Eggs, Sheep and Pork.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This is an ongoing program.

Who should apply for the program?

Alberta OFFS programs include producers of Bison, Cattle, Dairy, Elk, Horticulture, Poultry, Sheep and Swine.

What funding is available?

Funding is available through the national commodity associations.

Who will deliver the service?

Provincial specialists participate on national reviews of the programs and provide technical advice to the provincial delivery agent of the national programs. Commodity delivery agent in the province deliver the programs.

Whom do I contact for more information?

For more information about OFFS programs, contact:

Canadian Federation of Agriculture
Website: www.cfa-fca.ca

The Food Safety Division
Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
7000–113 street
Edmonton, AB T6H 5T6
Tel: 780 427-6159
Website: www.agric.gov.ab.ca

or your provincial commodity association.

Food Safety and Quality Program Delivery

What is the program objective?

The program will provide technical expertise and necessary infrastructure to address specific food quality and process control systems to meet market and regulatory requirements. Technical support is also provided to assist industry develop and implement of quality assurance and national on-farm food safety programming. Adopting of food safety protocols and standards will assist Saskatchewan food processors in mitigating risks while ensuring market access.

What are the expected results of the program?

The expected results of this program are:

- enhanced uptake of quality assurance programs throughout the agri-food value chain;
- improved competitiveness and market access by Saskatchewan food companies; and
- enhanced monitoring of food quality standards.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

In partnership with the Saskatchewan Food Industry Development Centre, quality assurance and technical services are provided to the food-processing industry to assess processors compliance to recognized standards and provide guidance in the developing and implementing of food quality assurance systems.

The program will also provide administration of the provincial milk quality monitoring system for raw and finished milk products and the regulatory enforcement and inspection of dairy farms and plants; inspection services for animal slaughter and meat-processing plants (both ante- and post-mortem inspection and monitoring is provided to ensure compliance with regulations; and technical assistance for Saskatchewan commodity associations preparing to implement national on-farm food safety programs.

When will the program be available, end, transition?

The program is currently available.

Who should apply for the program?

Not applicable.

What funding is available and to whom?

$1.0 million in fiscal year 2003–04.

$1.0 million in fiscal year 2004–05.

Funding is provided to the Market Development and Food Branch at Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food (SAF).

Who will deliver the service?

The program will be delivered through SAF staff in the Food Safety and Regulations Branch.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Director, Market Development and Food
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food
Room 125, 3085 Albert St.
Regina, SK S4S 0B1
Tel: 306 787-8526
E-mail: mdemyen@agr.gov.sk.ca

Saskatchewan Food Safety Training Program

What is the program objective?

The Food Safety Training Program will provide educational opportunities to enhance the technical awareness and skills of personnel working in the food-processing industry in Saskatchewan. The program will also support the development of food safety training curricula and enhance the development of a base of expertise in food safety training.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to:

- allow food processors to demonstrate to their customers a higher state of awareness and skill development in food safety;
- foster the production of safer, higher quality food products;
- assist with developing of additional food safety expertise in the province;
- generate higher skilled labour force for Saskatchewan processors; and
- assist Saskatchewan food processors in tracking and adopting new technology in food safety, education and extension.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

The program is designed to raise awareness and encourage adoption of food safety training and programs within the Saskatchewan food industry. An increased awareness and adoption of food safety, technology and programming will assist the food industry to remain competitive and help to maintain and increase market share.

Funding will be available for on-site training, computer-based training, central training activities and curriculum development, as well as for developing and printing support materials and for attending conferences.

When will the program be available, end, transition?

This program is still under construction.

Who should apply for the program?

Funding will be allocated to individual companies, industry associations, institutions or individuals involved in food safety training and/or in developing food safety training programs.

What funding is available?

$500 000 will be made available to eligible applicants on a 50 per cent matching basis. Maximum available is $25 000 for individuals or companies and $50 000 for industry associations.

Who will deliver the service?

The program will be delivered by staff with the Food Safety and Regulation Branch at Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Quality Assurance Specialist
Food Safety and Regulation Branch
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food
Room 125, 3085 Albert St.
Regina, SK S4S 0B1
Tel: 306 787-8525
E-mail: jlaturnas@agr.gov.sk.ca

Value Chain Program

What is the program objective?

The Value Chain Program (VCP) will provide assistance in creating and expanding value chains that will lead to sustainable marketing opportunities contributing to the growth of the agricultural economy through increased production and processing by Saskatchewan-based proponents.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to:

- increase participation in the area of value chains by the Saskatchewan agri-business sector and producers;
- improve market responsiveness of Saskatchewan agri-businesses;
- advance food safety assurance throughout the food chain;
- increase application or improvement of production and processing systems that ensure maintenance of the high quality of Saskatchewan's agricultural products.
- increase awareness of the benefits of value chains; and
- improve Saskatchewan's expertise in value chain development.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

The VCP will encourage proponents to develop agricultural value chains in Saskatchewan by providing technical support services and direct financial assistance.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program was implemented in March 2005 and is expected to be completed in March 2009.

Who should apply for the program?

Funds will be allocated to successful Saskatchewan-based agricultural applicants in two phases:

Phase I: Building Awareness and Education, Concept Development and Training:

- for potential value chain projects in the early stages of development, at the idea or concept stage; and
- for training events that will raise awareness of value chains, and/or increase Saskatchewan's expertise in value chains.

Phase II: Proposed Value Chain Initiatives and/or Implementation:

- for proponents that are a working value chain with at least three links of the supply chain involved and with the opportunity clearly identified.

What funding is available?

$0.5 million in fiscal year 2004–05.

Who will deliver the service?

The VCP will be delivered by the Market Development and Food Branch of Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food (SAF).

Whom do I contact for more information?

Manager, Administration and Policy Development
Market Development and Food
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food
Room 125, 3085 Albert St.
Regina, SK S4S 0B1
Tel: 306 787-6425
E-mail: kschmidt@agr.gov.sk.ca

Food Quality Program

What is the program objective?

The objective of this program is to provide extension service to groups interested in the development and implementation of food quality programs that will enhance marketing opportunities for Manitoba agri-food products.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to result in development and implementation of industry-led food quality programs.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

The Food Quality Program is an existing program.

Program description

Designated Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) staff works with interested industry groups to develop and implement food quality programs and systems designed to enhance marketing of Manitoba products. Activities will include extension meetings, workshops and facilitating program development.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Manitoba food industry stakeholders.

What funding is available?

Provincial government will contribute $0.770 million of in-kind funds over 5 years, 2003–08.

Who will deliver the service?

MAFRI staff.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Lead, Food Safety and Quality Chapter
MAFRI
545 University Crescent
Winnipeg, MB R3T 5S6
Tel: 204 945-7690
E-mail: jotaylor@gov.mb.ca

Food Safety Training

What is the program objective?

The objective of the program is to facilitate the development of food safety training materials and the transfer of information to producers and the food industry on food safety.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to result in delivery of information to producers and industry that promotes the continued adoption of good food safety practices.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

Food Safety Training is an existing program.

Program description

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) staff will work with stakeholders in the food industry to develop food safety programs, educate staff and provide other extension activities. These activities include delivering the FoodSTEPS training course for industry, maintenance of the food safety website and facilitating the development of Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP) systems and HACCP-based programs by industry.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Manitoba stakeholders involved in the food industry.

What funding is available?

The provincial government will contribute in-kind $0.750 million over 5 years, 2003–08.

Who will deliver the service?

MAFRI staff.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Lead, Food Safety and Quality Chapter
MAFRI
545 University Crescent
Winnipeg, MB R3T 5S6
Tel: 204 945-7690
E-mail: jotaylor@gov.mb.ca

On-Farm Food Safety Program

What is the program objective?

The program focus will be to monitor and provide support activities to producers to facilitate an increase in the quality of raw milk produced from Manitoba farms.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to result in continued monitoring and improvement of raw milk produced on Manitoba farms.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

Manitoba's On-Farm Food Safety Program for milk is an existing program.

Program description

The program monitors dairy producers' raw milk, on a monthly basis, for antibiotics, added water and aerobic bacteria, as well as bulk milk transports for antibiotics. The program provides inspection of dairy farms and raw milk haulers and provides extension services to producers to correct problems.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

Ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Manitoba producers.

What funding is available?

The provincial government will contribute $2.1 million in-kind over 5 years (2003–08) to the program.

Who will deliver the service?

Manitoba Agriculture Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) staff.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Lead, Food Safety and Quality Chapter
MAFRI
545 University Crescent
Winnipeg, MB R3T 5S6
Tel: 04 945-7690
E-mail: jotaylor@gov.mb.ca

Government Systems for Integrated Policy Development

What is the program objective?

The objective of the program is to further develop federal–provincial–territorial legislation, regulations, programs and protocols.

What are the expected results of the program?

Development of equivalent national legislation, regulations, programs and protocols by governments in consultation with industry.

Is the program a new existing or transition program?

Government Systems for Integrated Policy is an existing program.

Program description

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) staff work with other provincial/territorial governments, the federal government and its agencies, and industry in a number of initiatives to develop and harmonize legislation, regulations, policies, and programs. These initiatives include the National Meat and Poultry Regulation and Code, National Dairy Regulation and Code, Common Legislative Base, On-Farm Food Safety Program Recognition Protocol, Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP) System and HACCP-Based Recognition Protocol. The program also provides resources to assist in the recognition of industry-developed on-farm food safety programs by government.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the service?

Not applicable.

What funding is available?

The provincial government will contribute $0.130 million over 5 years to the program.

Who will deliver the service?

MAFRI staff.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Lead, Food Safety and Quality Chapter
MAFRI
545 University Crescent
Winnipeg, MB R3T 5S6
Tel: 204 945-7690
E-mail: jotaylor@gov.mb.ca

HACCP Advantage

What is the program objective?

The HACCP Advantage program has been developed by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF) to provide a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) approach and recognition framework for non-federally registered food processors. The program has been designed to be practical and feasible for all facilities, regardless of size, commodity produced, or volume processed. Processors who have adopted the program are certified by the Canadian General Standards Board (CGSB) after passing the HACCP Advantage audit administered by the CGSB.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to increase:

- Adoption of HACCP by non-federally registered food processors, resulting in increased safety of food products
- Non-federally registered food processors passing HACCP Advantage audits being certified under the HACCP Advantage program by the CGSB.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

The program was launched in March of 2004 and the first Certificate was issued in September 2004.

Program description

The HACCP Advantage program is based on the *Codex Alimentarius' General Principles of Food Hygiene* and includes all seven HACCP principles. The HACCP Advantage program consists of 57 prerequisite program standards and eight HACCP plan forms. The prerequisite programs are designed to control environmental and personnel-related hazards while the HACCP plan accounts for product and process-related hazards. The OMAF has developed the standards and is now promoting the program to processors and developing educational materials and events to inform and train processors. Development of technical resources is also underway.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program has been available since March of 2004. It will continue for the foreseeable future. The transition period includes the promotion/marketing to processors, development of training/educational opportunities and materials and the design and development of technical resource materials.

Who should apply for the program?

All non-federally registered food processors in Ontario are eligible to participate.

What funding is available?

Not applicable.

Who will deliver the service?

The OMAF has developed the HACCP Advantage program and provides educational materials and events as well as technical resource materials. Certification of processors is conducted on a fee-for-service basis by the CGSB.

Whom do I contact for more information?

The HACCP Advantage website is available at: www.gov.on.ca/OMAFRA/english/food/inspection/haccp/index.html. Here you will find background information on HACCP, the HACCP Advantage program manual, fact sheets and frequently asked questions. For more information or to obtain a copy of the HACCP Advantage program manual please call:

Tel (Toll-free): 1 888 466-2372 ext 64752 or
E-mail: HACCP.Advantage@omaf.gov.on.ca

For certification, contact:

Mr. Roy John
Registration Services - Environment, Health and Safety
Canadian General Standards Board
Tel: 819 956-3479
Fax: 819 956-5740
E-mail: roy.john@pwgsc.gc.ca

On-Farm Food Safety Strategy for Ontario

What is the program objective?

The objective of the strategy is to develop an Ontario approach to on-farm food safety that is consistent with the national framework, while meeting the needs of the agri-food industry.

What are the expected results of the program?

An On-Farm Food Safety system for Ontario that:

- Is consistent with national and international frameworks;
- Builds on existing initiatives and avoids duplication;
- Meets the needs of Ontario's agri-food supply chain;
- Is market driven and competitive; and
- Is effective and affordable.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

The strategy is new.

Program description

The individual components of the On-Farm Food Safety system for Ontario include:

- an infrastructure with the capability to optimize the administration and oversight of all on-farm food safety programs in Ontario;
- programs that integrate common elements of the on-farm food safety initiatives, which provides for a staged approach to implementation;
- a provincial recognition system for groups which cannot access national programs;
- a science based strategy with ongoing review for effectiveness; and
- a provincial traceability node linked with national systems.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The recommendations of the strategy are being further developed in a priority sequence as mentioned above. Specific roll-out dates are not currently available.

Who should apply for the program?

Not applicable.

What funding is available and to whom?

Not applicable.

Who will deliver the service?

Not applicable.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Dawn Pate
Manager, Food Safety, Product Quality & Animal Welfare
Livestock Technology Branch
Tel: 519 826-3102
E-mail: dawn.pate@omaf.gov.on.ca

Hugh Berges
Manager, Horticulture Technology
Crop Technology Branch
Tel: 519 826-3288
E-mail: hugh.berges@omaf.gov.on.ca

Ontario Industry/Government Traceability - Premises Identification and Registration

What is the program objective?

The project objectives are to develop a business model, business plan and standards for an Ontario Premises ID system that will operate within a national framework and ensure unique identifiers for livestock and crop production, and other biologically relevant locations to facilitate traceability. This is a joint government/industry initiative.

What are the expected results of the program?

A business and operational plan for a premises ID system and an implementation strategy.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This project is a result of the recent recommendations from the On-Farm Food Safety Strategy for Ontario traceability working group.

Program description

Premises Identification and Registration Project activities:

- Define business needs including emergency management
- Analyze existing data and existing infrastructures
- Review premises ID models including development and mechanisms to ensure data currency
- Evaluation and recommendation of possible linkages
- Evaluation and recommendations for regulatory support
- Recommend preferred model and develop business and operational plan
- Develop privacy and information sharing policies.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

It is anticipated that this project will end in September 2005.

Who should apply for the program?

Not applicable.

What funding is available?

Not applicable.

Who will deliver the service?

Not applicable.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Gwen McBride
Director
Livestock Technology Branch
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Tel: 519 826-3112
E-mail: gwen.mcbride@omaf.gov.on.ca

Tamara Fernandes
Livestock Traceability Coordinator
Livestock Technology Branch
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Tel: 519 826- 3794
E-mail: tamara.fernandes@omaf.gov.on.ca

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food Research Programs — Food Research Program

What is the program objective?

The objectives of the program are:

- Nutrition and health;
- Food safety, traceability and assurance programs; and
- Food quality, including value-added opportunities and waste management.

What are the expected results of the program?

Specific scientific goals are identified that researchers need to achieve through their projects.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program. A five-year Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF) — University of Guelph (U of G) contract was signed in 2002.

Program description

The Food Research Program is a part of the partnership agreement between the OMAF and the U of G.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is currently available to researchers meeting U of G selection criteria. The current investment is committed for 2004–08.

Who should apply for the program?

Researchers from the U of G and researchers from other institutions that are collaborating with the U of G researchers.

What funding is available?

The Food Research Program through the OMAF — U of G partnership currently supports 28 research projects in six U of G departments, one college and Lakehead University.

Who will deliver the service?

The University of Guelph.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Phil Malcolmson
Manager, Innovation and Risk Management Branch (IRMB)
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF)
1 Stone Road West
Guelph, ON N1G 4Y2
Tel: 519 826-4167
E-mail: phil.malcolmson@omaf.gov.on.ca

Risk Assessments/Baselines

What is the program objective?

Baseline risk studies are studies of targeted contaminated microbial pathogens and indicator organisms and/or chemical contaminants across a segment of the population (e.g., provincially-licensed meat processing establishments). Baseline studies determine whether a given pathogen or chemical is present in a specific food product, and if so, at what level. They provide estimates of the prevalence of a food safety hazard in a specific food product which provides data for food safety risk assessments.

What are the expected results of the program?

These studies are specific and are designed to collect statistical benchmarks for use in a number of ways. The information gained can be used to target intervention programs, inspection and control programs, and research efforts based on scientific information. A main outcome is the establishment of baseline data, particularly where such data does not exist for the population of interest.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

The program has existed since the 2000/01 fiscal year.

Program description

Baseline risk studies have been conducted in the fish, dairy, horticulture and meat sectors. They include microbiological and chemical studies of raw meats in provincially-inspected abattoirs in Ontario, a chemical study of Ontario farmed rainbow trout, a microbiological study of smoked fish, a microbiological study of raw sheep and goat's milk, pasteurized fluid milk, and soft cheeses. As well, two on-farm microbiological baselines studies have been done for poultry and pork. Other studies are planned. These studies will help determine the prevalence of specific pathogens and chemical or biological contaminants in food products.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

Baseline studies are currently being conducted.

Who should apply for the program?

Laboratory service providers.

What funding is available?

Requests for proposals are issued when required.

Who will deliver the service?

Not applicable.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Dr. Mike Cassidy
Coordinator, Food Safety Science Unit
Food Safety Policy Branch
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food
1 Stone Road West,
Guelph, ON N1G 4Y2
Tel: 519 826-4106
E-mail: mike.cassidy@omaf.gov.on.ca

Traceability Initiative

What is the program objective?

The program aims to facilitate the implementation of identification systems with a view to obtaining birth-to-table traceability for each production chain.

What are the expected results of the program?

- Respond more quickly in the event of a health crisis
- More effectively protect the health of the public by making it easier to identify the source of the problem and to implement the necessary corrective measures.
- Maintain consumer trust.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

New program.

Program description

The program has two components:

1) Identification of livestock. In this component, tagging costs are covered as part of a mass identification program for all cattle, sheep and hog herds (forthcoming).
2) Electronic scanning and uploading of livestock identification system data.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program has been in effect since 2002.

Who should apply for the program?

- Agri-Traçabilité Québec
- Producers' federations
- Producers
- Organizations involved in data automation
- Meat packing plants
- Auction houses
- Places where animals are assembled
- Agricultural exhibitions

What funding is available?

The funding available depends on the category of proponent or on the component applied for. For the period from April 2002 to July 2004, funding was allocated as follows:

- Mass identification of cattle (2003): $4.5M
- Mass identification of sheep (2004): $1.3M
- Assistance to automate electronic identifier scanning (2002-2004): $0.5M

Who will deliver the service?

Food Branch, Quebec Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

Whom do I contact for more information?

Executive Assistant to Assistant Deputy Minister for Food
200, chemin Ste-Foy QC G1R 4X6
Tel: 418 380-2100
E-mail: guy.auclair@mapaq.gouv.qc.ca

New Brunswick Agri-Food Safety Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of the New Brunswick Agri-Food Safety Initiative is to accelerate the adoption and implementation of recognized food safety and traceability programs in the production, processing and distribution of agri-food products.

What are the expected results of the program?

Expected results of this initiative are that:

- New Brunswick producers will receive training concerning on-farm food safety systems; and
- New Brunswick commodity boards and other agricultural organizations will receive assistance in implementing and auditing on-farm food safety systems.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

The initiative will provide assistance in the delivery of agri-food safety and traceability training to producers, farm employees, abattoir owners and employees, and individuals involved in the delivery of agri-food safety programs.

The initiative will also provide assistance in the implementation of food safety programs and traceability systems, both on-farm and in value-added operations. Activities include coordination, counseling, and pre-audit evaluation of individual participants, as well as the initial auditing of individual on-farm food safety plans.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program will be available until March 31, 2008.

Who should apply for the program?

New Brunswick commodity or other agricultural and agri-food organizations, which are serving as provincial delivery agents for nationally based programs, individual and groups of abattoir owners, and small/medium agri-food processors.

What funding is available?

Applicants may receive up to 70 per cent assistance for activities relating to training and implementation of food safety or traceability systems, and 50 per cent assistance for costs related to the initial audit of individual on-farm food safety plans.

Who will deliver the service?

The initiative will be delivered through the Livestock Development Branch of the New Brunswick Department of of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Further information and application forms are available from the Administrator, APF Agreement
NB Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture
P.O. Box 6000
Fredericton, NB E3B 5H1

New Brunswick Food Strategy Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of the New Brunswick Food Strategy Initiative is to develop and implement a provincial food strategy leading to the total development of the province's food sectors.

What are the expected results of the program?

The initiative is expected to result in:

- expanded market opportunities for New Brunswick food producers and processors;
- increased employment and economic activity in rural New Brunswick;
- a competitive, proactive and innovative food processing sector; and
- maximum value generated from primary agri-food products.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

The initiative will provide a contribution towards activities aimed at developing and implementing a New Brunswick Food Strategy.

When will the program be available, end, transition?

The program will be available until March 31, 2008.

Who should apply for the program?

New Brunswick commodity or other agricultural and agri-food organizations.

What funding is available?

The total budget for this initiative is $240 000.

Who will deliver the service?

The initiative will be delivered through the Agri-Business Development Branch of the New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Further information and application forms are available from:

The Administrator, APF Agreement
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture
P. O. Box 6000
Fredericton, NB E3B 5H1

Nova Scotia Regulatory Compliance Food and Farm Safety

What is the program objective?

This program is to assist on-farm, commodity associations and agri-business meet regulatory and marketing compliance associated with primary and further processing activities and marketing to consumers.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to result in:

- regulatory compliance with food safety measures;
- increased number of trained and certified personnel for agencies' consultants; and
- increased adoption of food safety systems, research and development by industry.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

The program is subdivided into two parts:

1) **Regulatory Compliance**
Assists agri-business with the direct costs to comply as a provincially inspected slaughter facility.
2) **Food Safety Program Development and Training**
Provides training, certification, human resource programming, and development to enhance industry adoption of food safety systems; research and development.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is available on an annual basis, subject to approval of provincial budget.

Who should apply for the program?

Depending on the project, eligible applicants meet the requirements of eligibility under the Farm Investment Fund or the Agri-Food Industry Development Fund. Assessment to be completed by Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries' Quality Evaluation staff with eligible activities based on recognized food safety guidelines.

What funding is available?

- Regulatory Compliance — Provincially Inspected On-Farm Slaughter Facilities (75 per cent of actual costs); and
- Food Safety Program Development and Training (50 per cent of actual costs).

Who will deliver the service?

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries' Programs and Business Risk Management Division.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Programs and Business Risk Management Division
Farm Investment Fund
176 College Road, PO Box 550
Truro, NS B2N 5E3
Tel: 902 893-6510 or (toll-free) 1 866 844-4276
Fax: 902 893-7579
E-mail: prm@gov.ns.ca
Website: www.gov.ns.ca/nsaf/prm

FoodTrust of Prince Edward Island

What is the program objective?

This program is to assist Prince Edward Island producers with producing, harvesting and marketing high-quality, safe, healthy and wholesome products in a sustainable system. FoodTrust works with P.E.I. growers and harvesters to establish sustainable growing standards that respond to consumers' needs for a safe, high-quality food source.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to provide consumers with a safe, healthy and wholesome food source. It will also assist producers in establishing long-term Environmental Plans unique to their operations, as well as detailed standards for each type of food.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a transition program.

Program description

The FoodTrust is a not-for-profit organization that provides a link between consumers, producers and growers. The program is focused on all parties receiving fair value from producing and distributing high-quality food produced in an environmentally, socially and economically responsible manner.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is currently available.

Who should apply for the program?

A producer, partnership or corporation that is engaged in farming in P.E.I.

Who will deliver the service?

FoodTrust of Prince Edward Island.

Whom do I contact for more information?

FoodTrust of Prince Edward Island
78 Watts Ave.P.O. Box 22089
Charlottetown, PE C1A 9J2
Tel: (toll-free) 1 866 569-7789
E-mail: info@foodtrustpei.com

Food Safety and Food Quality Program

What is the program objective?

The objective of the Food Safety and Food Quality Program is to contribute towards improving food quality and food safety systems throughout Newfoundland and Labrador.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to result in:

- implementation of Hazard Analysis at Critical Control Points (HACCP)-based systems;
- increased participation by industry in activities designed to ensure safe foods;
- tracking systems for agricultural products implemented; and
- quality processing of agricultural commodities implemented.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an active existing program.

Program description

This program is designed to provide improvements to food safety by implementing programs like HACCP and CFSAP to ensure the production of safe foods as well as traceability and food quality initiatives to ensure continued quality control. The following is a list of initiatives existing under this program:

- On-Farm Food Safety Initiative
- Bio-Safety Initiative
- Risk Assessment Initiative
- Food Strategies Initiative
- Regulatory Compliance of Food and Farm Safety Initiative
- Traceability Initiative
- Specific Disease Studies on Food-Borne Illnesses.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Governments and not-for-profit organizations.

What funding is available?

Assistance may be provided up to 100 per cent of eligible costs.

Who will deliver the service?

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada will assist stakeholder organizations in the development and implementation of quality process control systems for agricultural commodities and food and beverage products.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
The John Cabot Building, 10th Floor
10 Barter's Hill
P.O Box 1878
St. John's, NL A1C 5R4
Tel: 709 772-4063
Fax 709 772-4803
Further information may be obtained at:
Website: www.agr.gc.ca/puttingcanadafirst

Food Safety and Food Quality Program

Data Management Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of this initiative is to support the creation of commodity or industry-wide data management systems that support the general directives of the Food Safety and Food Quality Element of the Agriculture Policy Framework (APF).

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to result in the electronic capture, storage, sharing and dissemination of data generated in this field including the development of traceability systems to follow the movement of animals or products through the food chain.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an active existing program.

Program description

This program is designed to develop systems that support effective management of data related to the Food Safety and Food Quality Program.

When will the program be available end or transition?

This is an ongoing program.

Who should apply for the program?

Agricultural producers, processors, partnerships, corporations, cooperatives, governments and not-for-profit organizations.

What funding is available?

Assistance may be provided up to 50 per cent of actual costs for individual agricultural producers, processors, partnerships or corporations; up to 75 per cent of actual costs for cooperatives or farm groups representing three or more agribusinesses; and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and not-for-profit organizations.

Who delivers the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Food Safety and Food Quality Program

On-Farm Food Safety Initiative

What is the program objective?

The On-Farm Food Safety Initiative is to implement on-farm Hazard Analysis at Critical Control Points (HACCP) and HACCP-based programs, including organic certification in Newfoundland and Labrador.

What are the expected results of the program?

The initiative is expected to result in the adoption of HACCP, HACCP-based programs and organic certification for producers and processors province-wide.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

This initiative is designed to carry activities that create, disseminate, monitor, audit or advance the development and adoption of HACCP and HACCP-based activities.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Agricultural producers, processors, partnerships, corporations, cooperatives, governments and not-for-profit organizations.

What funding is available?

Assistance may be provided up to 50 per cent of actual costs for individual agricultural producers, processors, partnerships or corporations; up to 75 per cent of actual costs for cooperatives or farm groups representing three or more agribusinesses; and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and not-for-profit organizations.

Who will deliver the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Food Safety and Food Quality Program

Bio-Safety Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of the Bio-Safety Initiative is to develop commodity-specific bio-safety plans and to review and improve the infrastructure needed for measuring and maintaining bio-safety surveillance and control systems in Newfoundland and Labrador.

What are the expected results of the program?

The initiative is expected to result in improved ability to monitor and prevent the entry of diseases into the agriculture industry.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an active existing program

Program description

This initiative is designed to support the development and adoption of bio-security plans and address the infrastructure needs for measuring and maintaining bio-safety and surveillance and control systems.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This is an ongoing program.

Who should apply for the program?

Agricultural producers, processors, partnerships, corporations, cooperatives, governments and not-for-profit organizations.

What funding is available?

Assistance may be provided up to 50 per cent of actual costs for individual agricultural producers, processors, partnerships or corporations; up to 75 per cent of actual costs for cooperatives or farm groups representing three or more agribusinesses; and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and not-for-profit organizations.

Who will deliver the service?

The Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Food Safety and Food Quality Program

Risk Assessment Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of the Risk Assessment Initiative is to support the study of disease risks associated with environmental change and increased movement of people and animals and the resulted vulnerability of provincial industries to the arrival of new diseases that relate to bio-security, food safety and food quality in Newfoundland and Labrador.

What are the expected results of the program?

The initiative is expected to result in the development of risk assessment models for potential disease risks.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

The initiative provides support for the study of specific diseases that are influenced by environmental change and/or population movement.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for funding?

Governments and not-for-profit organizations.

What funding is available?

Assistance may be provided up to 100 per cent of eligible costs.

Who will deliver the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Food Safety and Food Quality Program

Food Strategies Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of the Food Stategies Initiative is to encourage the creation, implementation and partnership in developing food safety strategies for all agri-food commodities in Newfoundland and Labrador. These strategies will allow for standardization in the creation, development and implementation of the Hazard Analysis Critical Contorol Points (HACCP) or HACCP-based systems on the farm and in the processing sector.

What are the expected results of the program?

The initiative is expected to result in standardization of food safety and food quality standards province-wide.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

This initiative is designed to carry activities that support and create partnerships with governments to develop food safety strategies.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the service?

Governments and not-for-profit organizations.

What funding is available?

Assistance may be provided up to 100 per cent of actual costs.

Who will deliver the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Food Safety and Food Quality Program

Regulatory Compliance of Food and Farm Safety Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of this initiative is to contribute to the regulatory compliance of food safety and food quality, health and safety issues associated with agribusiness activities in Newfoundland and Labrador. The focus is on direct costs that producers and processors incur for their own and public food safety and food quality protection.

What are the expected results of the program?

The initiative is expected to result in increased compliance and implementation of regulations on Occupational Health and Safety as well as food quality and food safety.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

The initiative provides food safety and food quality activities that assist in obtaining regulatory compliance with Occupational Health and Safety; Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP) and HACCP-based requirements; or other food safety and quality measures as they arise.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Agricultural producers, processors, partnerships, corporations, cooperatives, governments and not-for-profit organizations.

What funding is available?

Assistance may be provided up to 50 per cent of actual costs for individual agricultural producers, processors, partnerships or corporations; up to 75 per cent of actual costs for cooperatives or farm groups representing three or more agribusinesses; and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and not-for-profit organizations.

Who will deliver the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Food Safety and Food Quality Program

Traceability Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of this initiative in Newfoundland and Labrador is to contribute to the implementation of federal-provincial traceability systems, which will establish a framework for data sharing, management and integration throughout the agrifoods sector. As a result, national food safety and quality linkages will be formed. This initiative is designed to link with national food safety and quality programs.

What are the expected results of the program?

The initiative is expected to result in a traceability system established to track agriculture products to ensure national food safety and quality.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

This initiative provides activities that support the development and implementation of traceability systems with national food safety and quality linkages.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Agricultural producers, processors, partnerships, corporations, cooperatives, governments and not-for-profit organizations.

What funding is available?

Assistance may be provided up to 50 per cent of actual costs for individual agricultural producers, processors, partnerships or corporations; up to 75 per cent of actual costs for cooperatives or farm groups representing three or more agribusinesses; and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and not-for-profit organizations.

Who will deliver the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Food Safety and Food Quality Program

Specific Disease Studies on Food-Borne Illnesses

What is the program objective?

The objective of this initiative is to support research on the presence, importance and preventative measures for diseases and residues that are transmitted through agriculture products and activities in Newfoundland and Labrador.

What are the expected results of the program?

The initiative is expected to result in the implementation of monitoring program to detect harmful diseases organisms and chemical residues.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

This initiative is designed to support research by government and not-for-profit organizations in collecting and analyzing locally produced foods or feeds to detect and monitor harmful biological organisms or chemical residues.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Governments and not-for-profit organizations.

What funding is available?

Assistance may be provided up to 100 per cent of eligible costs.

Who will deliver the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Manager
Tel: 709 637-2089
E-mail: rosalindpound@gov.nl.ca

Canada–Yukon Food Safety and Quality Programs

Food Safety and Quality programs in the Yukon aim to support initiatives that identify and/or minimize food safety risks through increased safety of food produced in the territory, including the safety of people working in the industry. The programs also aim to develop and implement traceability and regulatory compliance systems in cooperation with the industry.

There are four Food Safety and Quality programs in the Yukon

- Food Safety Strategies Initiative
- Regulatory Compliance of Food Safety Initiative
- Traceability Initiative
- Food Safety Processing Utilization Initiative

What are the programs' objectives?

Food Safety Strategies Initiative: Aims to encourage the creation, implementation and partnership in the development of food safety strategies for all agri-food commodities in the territory. These strategies will help standardize and implement the HACCP-based system on the farm and in the processing sector.

Regulatory Compliance of Food Safety Initiative: Contributes to the regulatory compliance of food safety and food quality, health and safety issues associated with agribusiness activities.

Traceability Initiative: Contributes to the implementation of federal–provincial–territorial traceability systems that will establish a framework for data sharing, management and integration throughout the agri-food sector. The Yukon Traceability Initiative focuses on continuing the Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) monitoring program and supports participation in the national livestock identification program.

Food Safety Processing Utilization Initiative: Encourages the creation and implementation of partnerships to increase the use of standardized processing facilities.

What funding is available and to whom?

Food Safety Strategies Initiative: Assistance may be provided up to 100 per cent of actual costs such as professional, technical and analytical support and training.

Regulatory Compliance of Food Safety Initiative: Assistance may be provided up to 50 per cent of actual costs for individual agriculture producers, processors, partnerships, or corporations; up to 75 per cent of actual costs for cooperatives or farm groups representing three or more agribusinesses; and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and non-profit organizations.

Traceability Initiative: Assistance may be provided up to 100 per cent of actual costs for individual agriculture producers, processors, partnerships, or corporations; up to 100 per cent of actual costs for cooperatives or farm groups representing three or more agribusinesses; and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and non-profit organizations.

Food Safety Processing Utilization Initiative: Assistance may be provided up to 100 per cent of actual costs for usage of standardized processing facilities.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Agriculture Branch
Department of Energy, Mines and Resources
P.O. Box 2703
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2C6
Tel: 867 667-5838
Fax: 867 393-6222
E-mail: agriculture@gov.yk.ca

Innovation Programs

Innovation programs equip the agriculture and agri-food sector with new bio-based products and processes, knowledge-based production systems, and strategies to capture opportunities.

Activities have been established under three categories:

Sustainable Production Systems — provides the foundation for commodity production capacity in the face of ever changing pest, disease and other threats, and unpredictable weather patterns. It is exploring new opportunities for innovative systems in the areas of:

- cultivar development and crop genetic enhancement
- grains and oilseed production
- field crops
- high-value crops
- livestock production systems
- animal behaviour and welfare.

Bio-products and Bio-processes — explores new opportunities provided by science and innovation such as those provided by genomics. It is exploring innovative systems in the areas of:

- bio-based products and processes;
- genomics, bio-informatics and bio-information

Science and Innovation Programming — will create new opportunities for agriculture. Strategic Development for Science and Innovation will accelerate the adoption of science and technology to create new value-added opportunities for processors, producers and rural communities, and new life sciences products for consumers. This initiative will fund the creation of 10–15 new value chains to create new industries based on value-added processing of commodities and bio-products, such as bio-fuels (e.g. ethanol, bio-diesel), bio-materials (e.g. plastics, fibreboard), green chemicals, pharmaceuticals, functional foods and nutraceuticals.

Federal Programs

- Agri-Innovation Program
- Broker Program

Provincial and Territorial Programs

Alberta

- Canada–Alberta Beef Industry Development Fund Agreement
- Canada–Alberta National Beef Industry Development Fund Agreement
- Canada–Alberta Value-Added Industry Development Program Agreement
- Hog Industry Development Fund Agreement
- Pork Initiative

Saskatchewan

- Strategic Research Program

Manitoba

- Agri-Food Research and Development Initiative (ARDI) I
- Agri-Food Research Support
- Agri-Food Research and Development Initiative (ARDI) III

Ontario

- Agriculture and Medical Related Science Initiative (MaRS LANDING Program)
- Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Awareness (OAFIA) Program
- Ontario Pesticide Education Program
- BIOENTERPRISE Corporation Program
- Soy 20/20
- Alternative Renewable Fuels R&D Fund
- Life Science and Agri-Food Innovation Fund

- New Directions Research Program
- Research – University of Guelph Agreement and New Directions
- Ontario Agri-Food Research and Development Strategy

Quebec

- Food and Agriculture Technology Research Program

New Brunswick

- Canada–New Brunswick Research and Innovation Program

Nova Scotia

- Canada–Nova Scotia Agri-Food Industry Development Fund (AFIDF)
- Canada–Nova Scotia Farm Investment Fund
- Nova Scotia Graduate Research Training Initiative
- Canada–Nova Scotia Technology Development

Prince Edward Island

- Agriculture Research Investment fund (ARIF)

Newfoundland and Labrador

- Evaluation and Adoption of New Technologies in the Agri-Foods Industry
- Market Development Initiative
- New Directions Research Program
- Newfoundland and Labrador Rural Agricultural Development Initiative
- Northern Agri-foods Initiative
- Secondary Processing and Product Development Initiative
- Strategic Development for Science and Innovation
- Evaluation and Adoption of New Crop Varieties, Non-Traditional Crops, Cropping and Storage Systems

Northwest Territories

- Agriculture Policy Framework Initiative

Yukon

- Canada–Yukon Innovation Programs

Agri-Innovation Program

What is the program objective?

This program will provide funding for projects that accelerate adoption of innovation and commercialization in the agri-food sector.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to:

- strengthen adoption of new innovations;
- move producers and rural communities up the value chain to increase their share of agri-sector income;
- differentiate commodities into a wide range of new products and markets; and
- create new value chains.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

A contribution program to accelerate innovation and commercialization by providing funding for start-up help e.g. centres of innovation, incubators, business mentoring, pilot processing; agricultural bioproducts integration, and realignment incentives for research. Key areas include:

1) Agri-food value chain innovation will improve collaboration along existing and proposed value chains to identify risks, opportunities and new markets.

Projects designed to strengthen existing linkages, and/or create new relationships, as a means to accelerate adoption of new innovations and improve producer and rural community value shares of agri-sector incomes.

Projects will bring together key players along entire value chains. Projects will be a mechanism for cooperative effort among all parties to increase value innovation through improved coordination among research, production and marketing entities. Workplans for each project will include determining an optimal strategy, identifying potential new markets, and developing recommendations and communications plans.

2) Intellectual property management (Innovation Acceleration) will provide funding for development and start-up costs for innovation and business mentoring.

The program provides support for the adoption of new economic opportunities. Funding will be provided for development and start-up costs such as centres of innovation, incubators and business mentoring programs.

3) Agricultural bioproducts integration will facilitate integration across science disciplines; project initiatives; provincial or regional bioproducts organizations or initiatives; targeting bioproducts industry development, business planning, industry creation, or research.

Funding will also be provided to facilitate integration activities for bioproducts industry development, outreach communications, market intelligence, and facilities and systems of agricultural bioproducts research and application.

4) Facilitating realignment will provide funding to accelerate realignment into priority areas.

Funding will be provided to accelerate realignment of science and innovation resources into priority areas, such as agricultural bioproducts research. Funding, for example, may be provided for information and database systems that help benchmark and direct realignment. Realignment could also be accelerated by providing seed funding for special initiatives, e.g. for new hires in priority areas.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is now operational and will end in 2008.

Who should apply for the program?

Various organizations or entities (e.g. cooperatives, commodity groups, agri-businesses, provincial or municipal governments, universities or colleges) that represent or involve agriculture are eligible for consideration and can apply by sending a Letter of Intent (two-page initial proposal) to the APF Science and Innovation Coordinator.

What funding is available?

The maximum contribution will not exceed $2 million per year. Total funding in the program is $20 million over 5 years.

Who will deliver the service?

Created or existing broker organizations, industry associations and alliances, companies, technical marketing support organizations, universities and colleges, cooperatives, individuals and provincial, territorial and municipal governments.

Whom do I contact for more information?

APF Science and Innovation Coordinator
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Ottawa, ON K1A 0C5
Tel: 613 759-7864
Fax: 613 759-7770
E-mail: freeze@agr.gc.ca

Broker Program

What is the program objective?

This program will create and/or provide funding support for a number of "broker" organizations working between industry, government and universities to accelerate the adoption of innovation.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to:

- strengthen adoption of new innovations by brokering between university, government and industry;
- move producers/rural communities up the value chain to increase their share of agri-sector income;
- differentiate commodities into a wide range of new products and markets; and
- create new value chains.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

A contribution program that supports a limited number of broker organizations in various sectors and regions to engage in specific activities modeled on the Ontario Soy 20/20 organization.

The organizations would build links and accelerate innovation across the value chain in areas of commercial and scientific promise for Canada. More concretely, they would seek new lines of business for higher value, agri-based products and processes.

The organizations would engage in two key activities:

- building links along existing value chains and promising new ones among primary producers, processors large and small and public and private funders of research, development and commercialization, e.g., by analyzing potential new traditional and non-traditional markets and by encouraging research; and
- promoting the development of an investment forum for promising value chains by identifying and facilitating access to public and private funding sources. This would include brokering proposals for programs like the agri-innovation program by identifying suppliers of innovation input, negotiating arrangements among them and preparing applications.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is now operational and will end in 2008.

Who should apply for the program?

Various organizations or entities (e.g. cooperatives, commodity groups, agri-businesses, provincial or municipal governments, universities or colleges) which represent or involve agriculture are eligible for consideration and can apply by sending a Letter of Intent (two-page initial proposal) to the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF) Science and Innovation Coordinator.

What funding is available?

The maximum contribution will not exceed $2 million per year. Total funding in the program is $6 million over 5 years.

Who will deliver the service?

Created or established broker organizations.

Whom do I contact for more information?

APF Science and Innovation Coordinator
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Ottawa, ON K1A 0C5
Tel: 613 759-7864
Fax: 613 759-7770
E-mail: freeze@agr.gc.ca

Canada–Alberta Beef Industry Development Fund Agreement

What is the program objective?

The program's objective is to conduct research in five main areas specific to the needs of the Alberta beef industry.

What are the expected results of the program?

The expected results of the program are to:

- improve regional beef production efficiencies through targeting characteristics inherent to Alberta's climate and feedstuffs;
- enhance the sustainability of beef production in Alberta;
- increase the intellectual resources available to educational institutions; and
- research and development that will improve the marketability of Alberta beef.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

Canada–Alberta Beef Industry Development Fund (CABIDF) dollars are earmarked for research projects specific to the needs of the Alberta beef industry. Projects cover all aspects of the beef production industry from basic studies to improve production today, to cutting edge technology that will keep the industry profitable tomorrow. Research falls under five categories: animal health, cow/calf, feedlot, intellectual resources and manure management/sustainability.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This program will end in 2006 but distribution funds ended in 2003.

Who should apply for the program?

The "Research Community" who have a proposal submission that will strengthen Alberta's beef industry.

What funding is available?

The CABIDF is a $16.4 million fund established with equal contributions from the federal and Alberta governments. The Fund is available because Alberta producers chose to allocate a portion of their safety net money to market-neutral industry development.

Who will deliver the service?

Fund activities are overseen by a board of directors. Producers, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) and Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development (AAFRD) are represented on the board.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Alberta Beef Producers
#320, 6715-8th Street N.E.
Calgary, AB T2E 7H7
Tel: 403 275-4400
Fax: 403 274-0007
E-mail: abpfeedback@albertabeef.org

Canada–Alberta National Beef Industry Development Fund Agreement

What are the program objectives?

The objectives of the program are to:

- promote and enhance the competitiveness of the beef industry in Canada through funding research and/or development programs;
- encourage customer-driven industry committed to 100 per cent customer satisfaction;
- expand market share and security;
- increase product value;
- improve alignment of the supply chain; and
- invest in knowledge and education (through innovation and adaptation).

Program Overview

The National Beef Industry Development Fund (NBIDF) is a $9.25-million investment of the governments of Canada, British Columbia and Alberta, managed and directed by an industry–government committee.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to:

- expand markets and increase market security;
- lever and enhance Canadian beef image to facilitate product differentiation;
- develop integrated food safety and foreign animal disease (FAD) strategies;
- add/optimize value to beef and beef cattle products, branded products and new products;
- improve beef quality and consistency; and
- facilitate improved knowledge and technology transfer.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program that commenced in September 1994 under the National Tripartite Stabilization Program Agreement.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The fund commenced in March of 2002 and expires in March of 2006.

Program description

The program:

- has projected benefits that exceed the costs;
- focuses on specific opportunities or challenges facing the beef industry;
- does not duplicate or overlap, but could augment, on-going federal and provincial activities;
- provides for private sector support for the priority of the project;
- does not support normal commercial expansion of private companies;
- is consistent with federal and provincial policy directions, acts, regulations and environmental directives;
- is consistent with Canada's international, domestic and trade commitments;
- falls within the mandate of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the provinces; and
- conforms to the principles and guidelines outlined in the Framework Agreement and does not involve direct income payments to producers or processors.

Who should apply for the program?

Individuals and groups can apply for funding for a project that falls within defined priority areas. Project proposals that do not fall into these areas are reviewed by an administrative group, which makes funding recommendations.

What funding is available?

Funding that was not spent under the previous agreement will be rolled over to the current program.

Who will deliver the service?

An industry–government committee made up of members of the beef industry and the governments of Canada, Alberta and British Columbia. The funding priorities have been assigned managers who can be contacted directly regarding project proposals.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Chairman, BIDF c/o Canadian Cattlemen's Association
#215, 6715 – 8th St. NE
Calgary, AB T2E 7H7
Tel: 403 275-8558
Fax: 403 274-5686

Canada-Alberta Value-Added Industry Development Program Agreement

What is the program objective?

To invest in innovative ideas adding value to agricultural commodities by providing coaching, knowledge, contacts and financial resources. AVAC's mission is to help accelerate the growth of agrivalue in Alberta. Created in 1997, AVAC has to date committed more than $20-million to agrivalue initiatives.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

AVAC invest in innovative ideas that add value to agricultural commodities. There are four funding programs and four different application forms. The funding programs are:

- Idea builder - for entrepreneurs and new venture developers, less than $25,000
- Pre-commercial and Entrepreneurial Projects - for entrepreneurs and new venture developers, more than $25,000
- Research and Strategic - for researchers, conference organizers or event coordinators
- Knowledge Investment - for projects under $25,000 that forward knowledge within the province in one of AVAC's four focus areas.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This program will end in 2006.

Who should apply for the program?

Eligible Idea Builder Projects

Individuals, start up companies, associations or established companies are eligible to apply to the Idea Builder Program.

- The project will add value to an agricultural commodity in Alberta.
- The project is early stage.
- The applicant can match AVAC Investment.
- The requested funds from AVAC do not exceed $25,000.

The AVAC Investment will not be used for working capital, inventory, buildings or equipment (except prototypes). Eligible uses of funds may include market feasibility studies; business and/or marketing plan development and professional advice.

Eligible Pre-Commercial and Entrepreneurial Projects

Individuals, start up companies or established companies are eligible to apply to the Pre-Commercial and Entrepreneurial Program. The requested funds from AVAC are more than $25,000, (for less than $25,000 see our Idea Builder Program). Eligible investments must show a potential to create agrivalue™ growth within Alberta. Projects must be pre-commercial (e.g. not yet ready to enter the commercial marketplace). Companies can be at any stage of development; only the idea/project has to be pre-commercial. Wide eligibility - from new product development to intellectual property or trademark advice. Projects may include product development, market assessments, establishing samples or prototypes and business plan development.

Projects requiring professional advice (including legal advice on intellectual property), market assessments (marketing plans to feasibility level), engineering advice, pilot scale equipment or quality assurance lab equipment and eligible pro-rated staff salaries will be given consideration. Applications are accepted at any time from entrepreneurs and private sector, for-profit enterprises, including start-ups.

Eligible Research and Strategic Initiatives

Researchers, research institutions and associations are eligible to apply to the Research and Strategic Initiatives Program. Research Initiatives can include: creating new and enhanced uses for agricultural products, focus on current or new research, and stimulate industry-science collaboration. Strategic Initiatives build on core competencies in value-added agriculture. Projects may include: hiring or retaining top talent in public and private sector research, emphasizing networking and collaboration through events and training programs, and proposing new alternatives to existing processes or infrastructures.

Eligible Knowledge Investments

Knowledge Investments include projects that advance agrivalue™ knowledge within the province. Projects may include seminars, trade shows or workshops within AVAC's focus areas: new and enhanced food products, wellness products, industrial or non-food applications and enabling technologies.

What funding is available?

Dependent on the type of project, funding can be more or less than $25,000 per project to eligible applicants.

Who will deliver the service?

AVAC Ltd.

Whom do I contact for more information?

AVAC Ltd.
Suite 220, 6815 - 8 Street N.E.
Calgary, AB Canada T2E 7H7
Tel: 403 274-2774
Fax: 403 274-0101
E-mail: avacinfo@avacltd.com

Hog Industry Development Fund Agreement

What is the program objective?

The Canada–Alberta Hog Industry Development Fund (HIDF) is a $3.2-million-plus fund established by the governments of Canada and Alberta to aid in the research and development of the hog industry in Alberta.

It is to invest in areas that potentially provide for great impact and return to the industry.

The investment of this fund will enhance the competitiveness of the pork industry in the domestic and global marketplaces.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to:

- improve public perceptions of the industry and product;
- address environmental issues such as manure and odour reductions and water conservation;
- enhance marketing;
- improve career opportunities for labour and management; and
- fund production research.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This program will end in 2006.

Who should apply for the program?

Generally, funding will not go to ongoing projects or programs that can be properly supported through existing funding sources.

The Fund can invest money on a wide range of activities with the exception of bricks and mortar and direct subsidization of products or a business.

What funding is available?

The Committee has approved 24 projects with funds committed to support these projects totaling $2 879 897.

Who will deliver the service?

The HIDF is administered by Alberta Pork with expenditure decisions made by the HIDF Committee. The Committee is comprised of five producer representatives (voting) appointed by Alberta Pork, one member (non-voting) appointed by Alberta Agriculture, Food & Rural Development and one appointed (non-voting) by Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada. The Alberta Pork Producers Development Corporation provides administration and secretarial duties.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Alberta Pork
4828 – 89 Street
Edmonton, AB T6E 5K1
Tel: 780 474-8288

Pork Initiative

What are the program objectives?

The objectives of this program are to:

- facilitate capital investment to establish or expand Alberta's hog production and processing industry;
- encourage a sustainable production and processing sector through increased competitiveness, and promotion of financing options, alternative business arrangement and risk management tools;
- enhance R&D to develop new feed options, environmental practices and processing technologies;
- ensure the regulatory framework balances environmental sustainability and growth of the pork industry;
- maintain and enhance access to export markets;
- increase labour supply through changes to labour policies;
- develop and implement a strategy(ies) to deal with impacts and exploit opportunities of the US Farm Bill; and
- utilize fully and enhance programs for water and wastewater infrastructure for agricultural production and processing.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to increase primary pork production to $1.0 billion and pork product manufacturing (i.e. fresh, frozen and chilled pork products) to $1.7 billion by 2010.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new initiative.

Who should apply for the program?

This is an Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development (AAFRD) Key Initiative and is not directly available to producers.

What funding is available?

Not applicable.

Who will deliver the service?

AAFRD.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Project Leader
Provincial Building
#301, 4920-51 Street
Red Deer, AB T4N 6K8
Tel: 403 340-4815
E-mail: Suzanne.Leshchyshyn@gov.ab.ca

Strategic Research Program (SRP)

What is the program objective?

The Strategic Research Program (SRP) is to attract and maintain the best possible researchers in the areas of agriculture and food considered to be of strategic importance to Saskatchewan.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to increase the value of crop and livestock production, expand food and non-food processing and ensure environmental sustainability. The program will help producers and rural communities to increase their share of the agri-food sector income. The program will result in:

- innovative food, bio-products and processing systems to take advantage of Saskatchewan's vast agricultural potential to supply food and non-food products;
- utilization of high-quality feeds and technologies to improve Saskatchewan's competitive advantage and increase sales of targeted Saskatchewan feedstocks, technologies and value-added products in domestic and export markets;
- new crop varieties meeting market demand and consumer preferences; and
- better soil quality and its environmental interface to maintain and to benefit current and future generations.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

The province will provide financial contributions for scientific research chairs in areas of strategic importance to Saskatchewan, each consisting of a scientist, or engineer and technicians. The chairs will be housed at the Western Beef Development Centre and the University of Saskatchewan. Funding is also allocated for technology transfer and commercialization of research results.

The program will focus on four strategic areas:

1) Crop Genetic Improvement.

2) Foods and Bioproducts Development.

3) Soils and Environment.

4) Livestock.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This program is currently operational and will end in 2008.

Who should apply for the program?

Not applicable.

What funding is available and to whom?

The program will invest $16.5 million over 5 years starting with:

- $3.3 million in fiscal year 2003–04; and
- $3.3 million in fiscal year 2004–05.

The remaining balance will be distributed over the following 3 years. Funding is provided to the Western Beef Development Centre and University of Saskatchewan.

Who will deliver the service?

The Agriculture Research Branch of Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Executive Management Assistant
Agriculture Research Branch
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food
Room 226, 3085 Albert St.
Regina, SK S4S 0B1
Tel: 306 787-6566
E-mail: lmarinos@agr.gov.sk.ca

Agri-Food Research and Development Initiative I (ARDI I)

What is the program objective?

The Agri-Food Research and Development Initiative I (ARDI I) provides financial support to strategic partners on a project-by-project basis for research and development ventures contributing to Manitoba's diversification and adding value to its agricultural and food sector.

What are the expected results of the program?

Successful ARDI research projects will benefit the agricultural enterprises in the through a demonstrated return on investment; they will facilitate adaptation in the agriculture sector through diversification, crop and livestock development and growth in the value-added sector. Projects should

- demonstrate an impact on the industry within 5 years of the projects' completion;
- incorporate the principles of sustainable development; and
- be compatible with Canada's trade obligations.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

The ARDI I is a continuation of the original federal–provincial ARDI established in 1997, which provided approximately $20 million in funding for research and development in Manitoba.

Program description

The program funds applied research and development activities or projects conducted in Manitoba with an emphasis on using established commodities with significant opportunity, new commodities such as alternative crops, bio-energy, bio-fibers and bio-technology and sustainability of the resource base and the environment. Other innovative proposals may be considered.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This is an ongoing program.

Who should apply for the service?

The ARDI I application process is open to all sectors of the Manitoba agriculture and agri-food industry. Eligible applicants include individuals, associations, commodity groups, local organizations, agri-businesses and institutions.

What funding is available?

Funding for ARDI I is determined annually. For fiscal year 2004-05, federal and provincial governments have committed $2.5 million, of which provincial funds make up $1.0 million.

Who will deliver the service?

A Program Council consisting of seven industry representatives is responsible for developing ARDI I objectives and policies as well as prioritization, establishing criteria for project assessment and funding approval of eligible project proposals. The Manitoba Association of Agricultural Societies (MAAS) administrates the program and plays an important role in soliciting proposals and administrating funds to successful project applicants. Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) provide program support and advisory assistance to MAAS and the Program Council.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Transition Programs Lead
MAFRI
401 York Ave. Room 811
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0P8
Tel: 204 945-3979
E-mail: gfearn@gov.mb.ca

Agri-Food Research Support

What is the program objective?

The program's objective is to provide financial support to the University of Manitoba to conduct agricultural research projects aimed at enhancing the productivity and income of Manitoba's agriculture and food sector.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to result in research conducted in support of the department's strategic priority areas of farm profitability, sustainability, food safety and quality, diversification and adding value, market development and agricultural awareness. Funding from this grant is expected to serve as a valuable resource in assisting the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences in attracting outside funding for research (in support of Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) priorities) from non-provincial government sources.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

The grant provided by MAFRI is an existing program.

Program description

MAFRI, through a general agreement with the University of Manitoba, financially supports the Glenlea Research Station operation and research projects conducted by the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The grant is provided annually to the University of Manitoba after the provincial budget is debated and passed.

Who should apply for the program?

Not applicable.

What funding is available?

$768 300 per year grant assistance to University of Manitoba is available under the ARDI II program.

Who will deliver the service?

MAFRI.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Lead, Transition Programs
MAFRI
401 York Ave – Room 811
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0P8
Tel: 204 945-3979
E-mail: gfearn@gov.mb.ca

Agri-Food Research and Development Initiative III (ARDI III)

What is the program objective?

The Agri-Food Research and Development Initiative III (ARDI III) provides financial support to strategic partners on a project-by-project basis for research and development ventures contributing to the Manitoba's diversification and adding value to its agricultural and food products.

What are the expected results of the program?

Successful ARDI research projects will benefit the greatest number of agricultural enterprises in the industry, or industry as a whole, through a demonstrated return on investment. The program is expected to facilitate adaptation in the agriculture sector through diversification, crop and livestock development and growth in the value-added sector. Projects should demonstrate an expected impact on the industry within five years of the projects' completion, incorporate the principles of sustainable development and be compatible with Canada's trade obligations.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

The ARDI III is a continuation of the work efforts of the federal–provincial ARDI I. For the first 3 years under the Canada–Manitoba Implementation Agreement, ARDI I is a provincial matching program under transition. For years 2006–07 and 2007–08 the ARDI III is matching provincial funds under the Science and Innovation Chapter.

Program description

The program provides funding for proposal-based applied research and development. Proposals should focus on utilizing established commodities, new commodities such as alternative crops, bioenergy, biofibers and biotechnology. Proposals should also demonstrate innovative focus on resource base and the environment.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

The application process is open to all sectors of the Manitoba agriculture and agri-food industry. Eligible applicants include individuals, associations, commodity groups, local organizations, agri-businesses and institutions.

What funding is available?

Funding for ARDI III is determined annually.

Who will deliver the service?

A Program Council consisting of seven industry representatives is responsible for developing ARDI objectives and policies, criteria for project assessment and funding approval of eligible project proposals. The Manitoba Association of Agricultural Societies (MAAS) administrates the program and plays an important role in soliciting proposals and administering the disbursement of funds to successful project applicants. Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) provides program support and advisory assistance to MAAS and the Program Council.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Lead, Science and Innovation
MAFRI
204 – 545 University Crescent
Winnipeg, MB R3T 5S6
Tel: 204 945-1341
E-mail: tsmyrl@gov.mb.ca

Agriculture and Medical Related Science Initiative (MaRS LANDING Program)

What is the program objective?

The objective of the MaRS LANDING program is to link scientific research and development in rural Ontario with the best-in-class scientific, medical and related science communities, including universities and hospitals, in the MaRS Discovery District in Toronto. These are brought together with business and venture capital to facilitate the commercialization of academic research in Canada.

What are the expected results of the program?

Sustainable link established between the agri-food industry with human health needs that can be met through research, innovation and commercialization.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

MaRS LANDING has existed since 2003, with funding support from Ontario's OSTAR Red Program of the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, along with the University of Guelph, the City of Guelph Economic Development Office, Ontario Agri-Food Technologies and MaRS (Discovery District in Toronto).

Program description

MaRS LANDING will create opportunities for entrepreneurs, business, government and other interested parties to come together on national, provincial and local levels to enhance the agri-food/rural/human health interface by undertaking the following activities:

- support linkages between cross-sectoral, like-minded researchers in the agri-food and human health fields;
- establish a public health awareness forum for the rural sector;
- development of a focused Annual Meeting with Health and Agri-food sectors;
- introduction of Agri-Food / Human Health links to MaRS Centre in Toronto;
- participation at meetings and conferences to attract investment in Canada/Ontario;
- development of database of food industry interested in human health links; and
- continue development of the bilingual MaRS LANDING website.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

Funding has been provided under the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF) until March 31, 2008 but the program may continue to exist depending on securing sustainable funding sources.

Who should apply for the program?

Not applicable.

What funding is available?

MaRS LANDING is not a funding program. APF funds will be used to deliver the activities under this program.

Under the APF, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food are providing funding to MaRS LANDING as follows:

MaRS LANDING
Total contributions = $ 3.14 million

Fiscal year	Provincial contribution $	Federal contribution $
2003–04	200 000	80 000*
2004–05	300 000	180 000
2005–06	300 000	380 000
2006–07	0	750 000
2007–08	0	950 000

NB: * due to delays in negotiating Contribution Agreements, 2003–04 funding is now being distributed to the last 4 years of the program.

Who will deliver the service?

This program is delivered by the University of Guelph and is managed by an Advisory Board on which both AAFC and OMAF have representation.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Executive Director,
MaRS LANDING
4-130 Research Lane,
GranBry Innovations Building
Guelph, ON N1G 5G3
Tel: 519 824-4120 ext.56604
E-mail: Jkelly@uoguelph.ca

Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Awareness (OAFIA) Program

What is the program objective?

The objective of the Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Awareness (OAFIA) Program is to, through focused communications activities, foster collaboration, raise Ontario's profile, attract investment and encourage the commercialization of agri-food life sciences innovation and bio-products.

What are the expected results of the program?

The expected results of the program include:

- thriving and integrated Ontario agri-food bio-based sector (research to commercialization) by 2008;
- increased public acceptance and support for bio-based technology uses; and
- favourable business climate that collaboratively works toward adopting agri-food life sciences in the bio-based economy.

Is the program a new existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

The OAFIA Program will include specific funding for three activities:

1) Marketing and promoting of Ontario's bio-products, skills and expertise in agri-food, life sciences/ bio-products and technologies. Increasing domestic and international interaction through development and distribution of promotional/educational material and co-hosting seminars and events.
2) Organizing the R&D Summit of Excellence in Ag-Innovation, an annual event to raise awareness and build partnerships and opportunities in the bio-based economy. Creating an award program for researchers and entrepreneurs and youth who develop value-added products.
3) Providing project management by Ontario Agri-Food Technologies (OAFT).

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is being delivered currently and will end on March 31, 2008.

Who should apply for the program?

Not applicable.

What funding is available?

The OAFIA Program is not a funding program. Agriculture Policy Framework (APF) funds will be used to deliver the activities under this program.

Under the APF, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food are providing funding to OAFIA Program as follows:

Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Awareness Program: Total contributions = $870 000

Fiscal year	Provincial contribution $	Federal contribution $
2003–04	25 000	10 000*
2004–05	80 000	110 000
2005–06	80 000	110 000
2006–07	107 500	120 000
2007–08	107 500	120 000

NB: * due to delays in negotiating Contribution Agreements, 2003–04 funding is now being distributed to the last 4 years of the program.

Who will deliver the service?

A non-profit corporation Ontario Agri-Food Technologies (OAFT) delivers this program. OAFT is run by a President and one administrative assistant and an 11-member Board of Directors. OMAF is represented on the Board.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Ontario Agri-Food Technologies
1 Stone Road West, 1st Floor
Guelph, ON N1G 4Y2
Tel: 519 826-3806
E-mail: oaft@sentex.net

Agriculture and Medical Related Science Initiative (MaRS LANDING Program)

What is the program objective?

The objective of the MaRS LANDING program is to link scientific research and development in rural Ontario with the best-in-class scientific, medical and related science communities, including universities and hospitals, in the MaRS Discovery District in Toronto. These are brought together with business and venture capital to facilitate the commercialization of academic research in Canada.

What are the expected results of the program?

Sustainable link established between the agri-food industry with human health needs that can be met through research, innovation and commercialization.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

MaRS LANDING has existed since 2003, with funding support from Ontario's OSTAR Red Program of the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, along with the University of Guelph, the City of Guelph Economic Development Office, Ontario Agri-Food Technologies and MaRS (Discovery District in Toronto).

Program description

MaRS LANDING will create opportunities for entrepreneurs, business, government and other interested parties to come together on national, provincial and local levels to enhance the agri-food/rural/human health interface by undertaking the following activities:

- support linkages between cross-sectoral, like-minded researchers in the agri-food and human health fields;
- establish a public health awareness forum for the rural sector;
- development of a focused Annual Meeting with Health and Agri-food sectors;
- introduction of Agri-Food / Human Health links to MaRS Centre in Toronto;
- participation at meetings and conferences to attract investment in Canada/Ontario;
- development of database of food industry interested in human health links; and
- continue development of the bilingual MaRS LANDING website.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

Funding has been provided under the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF) until March 31, 2008 but the program may continue to exist depending on securing sustainable funding sources.

Who should apply for the program?

Not applicable.

What funding is available?

MaRS LANDING is not a funding program. APF funds will be used to deliver the activities under this program.

Under the APF, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food are providing funding to MaRS LANDING as follows:

MaRS LANDING
Total contributions = $ 3.14 million

Fiscal year	Provincial contribution $	Federal contribution $
2003–04	200 000	80 000*
2004–05	300 000	180 000
2005–06	300 000	380 000
2006–07	0	750 000
2007–08	0	950 000

NB: * due to delays in negotiating Contribution Agreements, 2003–04 funding is now being distributed to the last 4 years of the program.

Who will deliver the service?

This program is delivered by the University of Guelph and is managed by an Advisory Board on which both AAFC and OMAF have representation.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Executive Director,
MaRS LANDING
4-130 Research Lane,
GranBry Innovations Building
Guelph, ON N1G 5G3
Tel: 519 824-4120 ext.56604
E-mail: Jkelly@uoguelph.ca

Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Awareness (OAFIA) Program

What is the program objective?

The objective of the Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Awareness (OAFIA) Program is to, through focused communications activities, foster collaboration, raise Ontario's profile, attract investment and encourage the commercialization of agri-food life sciences innovation and bio-products.

What are the expected results of the program?

The expected results of the program include:

- thriving and integrated Ontario agri-food bio-based sector (research to commercialization) by 2008;
- increased public acceptance and support for bio-based technology uses; and
- favourable business climate that collaboratively works toward adopting agri-food life sciences in the bio-based economy.

Is the program a new existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

The OAFIA Program will include specific funding for three activities:

1) Marketing and promoting of Ontario's bio-products, skills and expertise in agri-food, life sciences/ bio-products and technologies. Increasing domestic and international interaction through development and distribution of promotional/educational material and co-hosting seminars and events.
2) Organizing the R&D Summit of Excellence in Ag-Innovation, an annual event to raise awareness and build partnerships and opportunities in the bio-based economy. Creating an award program for researchers and entrepreneurs and youth who develop value-added products.
3) Providing project management by Ontario Agri-Food Technologies (OAFT).

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is being delivered currently and will end on March 31, 2008.

Who should apply for the program?

Not applicable.

What funding is available?

The OAFIA Program is not a funding program. Agriculture Policy Framework (APF) funds will be used to deliver the activities under this program.

Under the APF, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food are providing funding to OAFIA Program as follows:

Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Awareness Program: Total contributions = $870 000

Fiscal year	Provincial contribution $	Federal contribution $
2003–04	25 000	10 000*
2004–05	80 000	110 000
2005–06	80 000	110 000
2006–07	107 500	120 000
2007–08	107 500	120 000

NB: * due to delays in negotiating Contribution Agreements, 2003–04 funding is now being distributed to the last 4 years of the program.

Who will deliver the service?

A non-profit corporation Ontario Agri-Food Technologies (OAFT) delivers this program. OAFT is run by a President and one administrative assistant and an 11-member Board of Directors. OMAF is represented on the Board.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Ontario Agri-Food Technologies
1 Stone Road West, 1st Floor
Guelph, ON N1G 4Y2
Tel: 519 826-3806
E-mail: oaft@sentex.net

Ontario Pesticide Education Program

What is the program objective?

The objective of the Ontario Pesticide Education Program (OPEP) is to provide pesticide safety and application training to Ontario farmers and pesticide vendors. This training will help to reduce the risks of pesticide use.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to provide information, training and certification on the safe use of pesticides in Ontario to the following groups:

- certified growers (farmers trained in pesticide application and safety);
- trained agricultural assistants (farm helpers trained in pesticide safety);
- pesticide vendors (pesticide sales representatives);
- licensed exterminators (commercial pesticide applicators); and
- technicians (trained assistants to commercial pesticide applicators).

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This existing program has been in operation since 1987.

Program description

The OPEP provides training for various categories of pesticide users. Certification is usually valid for a period of 5 years. Fees for training vary and are the responsibility of the individual participant. Categories of the OPEP include:

- Certified Growers — Every farm business that uses Schedule 1, 2 or 5 pesticides must have at least one certified grower. A certified grower must attend and pass the exam of the Grower Pesticide Safety Course.
- Trained Agricultural Assistants — Complete training to handle Schedule 2 and 5 pesticides only under the supervision of a Certified Grower.
- Pesticide Vendors — Each location selling pesticides from Schedules 1, 2 and 5 must have at least one employee certified through the Pesticide Vendor Certification Course.
- Licensed Exterminators — Individuals that buy and apply pesticides for commercial purposes are required to complete certification under this category.
- Technicians — Can mix, load, or apply all Schedule 3, 4, and 6 pesticides and most Schedule 2 pesticides under the indirect supervision of a licensed exterminator. Technicians cannot mix, load or apply Schedule 1 or 5 pesticides. Training is valid for a 2-year period.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

The program is intended to provide training and certification for various groups of pesticide users in the province of Ontario. Anyone buying, handling, mixing, loading or applying pesticides in Ontario is an intended audience for one or more categories of the program.

What funding is available?

This is not a funding program. The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food provides funding to the OPEP for program delivery and administration, rather than to individual producers.

Who will deliver the service?

Training and certification are delivered through Ridgetown College, University of Guelph.

Whom do I contact for more information?

For dates and locations of specific training and certification opportunities, please consult the Ontario Pesticide Education Program
Tel: 519 674-1576 or (toll-free) 1 888 620-9999
Website: www.ridgetownc.uoguelph.ca/OPEP

BIOENTERPRISE Corporation Program

What is the program objective?

The objective of the BIOENTERPRISE Corporation program is to accelerate the development and commercial success of embryonic and emerging agri-food and life science start-ups, which have a strong potential for sustainable growth.

What are the expected results of the program?

BIOENTERPRISE Corporation will provide support for the growth and commercialization of agri-food bio-based companies through:

- securing sufficient resources to support ongoing operations via sponsorship, grants and fee for service arrangements;
- becoming self-sufficient by the fiscal year 2007–08; and
- continuing to deliver program activities on not-for-profit basis.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

BIOENTERPRISE Corporation has existed since 2003 as a result of a partnership between founding members — Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF), the University of Guelph and the City of Guelph Economic Development Office.

Program description

BIOENTERPRISE Corporation activities are in the following areas:

- developing and commercializing at least two knowledge-based companies per year;
- developing and formalizing at least five strategic alliances per year;
- building knowledge networks; and
- managing and administering the program.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

BIOENTERPRISE Corporation commenced activities in 2003. Agricultural Policy Framework (APF) funding will be provided until March 31, 2008. The program may continue to exist depending on securing sustainable funding sources.

Who should apply for the program?

Agri-food bio-based companies.

What funding is available?

BIOENTERPRISE Corporation is not a funding program. APF funds will be used to deliver the activities under this program. Under the APF, AAFC and OMAF are providing funding to BIOENTERPRISE Corporation as follows:

BIOENTERPRISE:
Total contributions = $ 2 million

Fiscal year	Provincial contribution $	Federal contribution $
2003–04	200 000	200 000
2004–05	200 000	200 000
2005–06	200 000	200 000
2006–07	200 000	200 000
2007–08	200 000	200 000

NB: * due to delays in negotiating Contribution Agreements, 2003–04 funding is now being distributed to the last 4 years of the program.

Who will deliver the service?

This program is delivered by a non-profit corporation, (BIOENTERPRISE Corporation), which is managed by a Board of Directors on which both AAFC and OMAF have representation.

Whom do I contact for more information?

President,
BIOENTERPRISE Corporation
3-130 Research Lane,
GranBry Innovations Building
Guelph, ON N1G 3G5
Tel: 519 821-2960
E-mail: connie.hearty@bioenterprise.ca

Soy 20/20 Program

What is the program objective?

The objective of the Soy 20/20 program is to provide market research, analysis and recommendations regarding value-added opportunities for soybeans. It engages industry players to strengthen the linkages between soy research, production, commercialization and processing.

What are the expected results of the program?

The results of the program are expected to :

- ensure public and private resources are appropriately coordinated, aligned and focused in order to maximize market opportunities and value-added for the Canadian soybean industry;
- improve vertical coordination between research, production and marketing; and
- assist in the marketing of higher margin specialty trait soy-products and new commodity based industrial products.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

Soy 20/20 program has existed since 2002 as a result of a partnership between founding members — Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF), University of Guelph and the Ontario Soybean Growers.

Program description

Soy 20/20 program activities in the following areas will:

- develop and apply co-operative measures to support life sciences based innovation, industry development and market development initiatives for the Canadian-Ontario soybean industry;
- serve as a model of strategic action for other commodity groups across Canada facing similar international competition;
- form the basis for a new government–university–industry partnership;
- increase value creation in the Canadian soybean industry; and
- assist the soybean industry in capitalizing on technology and user driven opportunities.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

Soy 20/20 is an ongoing program. Funding has been provided under the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF) until March 31, 2008. The program may continue to exist pending securing sustainable funding sources.

Who should apply for the program?

Soy 20/20 is not a funding program. No funding is available to producers but rather directly to Soy 20/20 Project non-profit corporation to implement the activities.

What funding is available?

Under the APF, AAFC and OMAF are providing funding to Soy 20/20 Project as follows:

Soy 20/20: 5-Year contributions = $1.25 million

Fiscal year	Provincial contribution $	Federal contribution $
2003–04	25 000	125 000
2004–05	125 000	125 000
2005–06	125 000	125 000
2006–07	125 000	125 000
2007–08	125 000	125 000

NB: * due to delays in negotiating Contribution Agreements, 2003–04 funding is now being distributed to the last 4 years of the program.

Who will deliver the service?

The Soy 20/20 program is delivered by Soy 20/20 Project that is managed by a Board of Directors composed of the founding members.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Project Associate, Soy 20/20
1 Stone Road West, 1st Floor
Guelph, ON N1G 4Y2
Tel: 519 826-6559
E-mail: darlene@soy2020.ca

Alternative Renewable Fuels R&D Fund

What is the program objective?

Alternative Renewable Fuels Research and Development Fund will undertake scientific research projects to:

- enable and ensure continuous change and improvement in the alternative renewable fuels industry products and processes;
- promote agricultural value-added opportunities in the alternative renewable fuels industry in Ontario; and
- assist alternative renewable fuels production facilities in Ontario to be major participants in the worldwide alternative renewable fuels industry.

What are the expected results of the program?

Development of:

- innovative technologies that will promote increased use of renewable fuels in Ontario;
- new value-added opportunities for Ontario agricultural feed stocks in the production of renewable fuels; and
- alternative renewable fuels production facilities in Ontario.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program, which began with an initial call for proposals in 2003-2004.

Program description

Alternative Renewable Fuels Research and Development Fund will invite research proposals that address the objectives of the program and provide funding to those that are deemed to provide the greatest benefits to the Ontario agri-food and energy sectors. Successful applicants (researchers) will submit annual reports as their research progresses and a final report when the project is complete. The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF) will encourage the researchers to communicate their findings to the appropriate sectors and to pursue any promising commercialization opportunities.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

Funding has been provided under the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF) until March 31, 2008 but the program may continue to exist after that time based on securing sustainable funding sources.

Who should apply for the program?

Researchers and research institutions with expertise relevant to the development of alternative renewable fuels technologies.

What funding is available?

Fiscal year	Ontario	AAFC*	Total
2003–04	$250 000		$250 000
2004–05	$100 000	$240 000	$340 000
2005–06	$100 000	$120 000	$220 000
2006–07	$100 000	$120 000	$220 000
2007–08	$100 000	$120 000	$220 000
Total	$650 000	$250 000	$1 250 000

Who will deliver the service?

The Agricultural Research Institute of Ontario (ARIO) will enter into contracts with eligible research institutions to deliver research projects identified through a competitive process.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Phil Malcolmson
Manager, Innovation Unit
Innovation and Risk Management Branch
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food
1 Stone Road West
Guelph, ON N1G 4Y2
Tel: 519 826-4167
Fax: 519 826-4211
E-mail: phil.malcolmson@omaf.gov.on.ca

Life Science and Agri-Food Innovation Fund

What is the program objective?

The Life Science and Agri-Food Innovation Fund will fund proof of concept/proof of principle research projects to promote and speed up the pre-commercialization development of new products and services in the agri-food and related life sciences sector in Ontario.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to:

- Increase the number of Ontario agri-food and life science research projects successfully leading to commercialization of new products and services
- Enhance the capacity of researchers in the agri-food and life science research area to engage in commercialization discussions with potential investors.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

Selected proposals will receive funding to assist with their pre-commercialization development. Applicants will be encouraged to submit proposals designed to enhance the commercial value of existing intellectual property and make it more attractive to potential investors. Proposals may be directed to provide a clearer understanding of the intellectual property and potential applications, examine its commercial potential, and improve on the ability to attract further investment.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

Program details have been established and the program can be launched within six months of the finalization of the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF) Contribution Agreement. Funding has been committed under the APF until March 31, 2008 but the program may continue to exist after that time based on securing sustainable funding sources.

Who should apply for the program?

The Life Science and Agri-Food Innovation Fund will accept proposals from researchers and research institutions that are conducting work in the life science or agri-food sectors and who have interesting intellectual property with potential for commercialization.

What funding is available?

Fiscal year	Ontario	AAFC	Total
2003–04	$150 000		$150 000
2004–05	$150 000	$340 000	$490 000
2005–06	$150 000	$170 000	$320 000
2006–07	$150 000	$170 000	$320 000
2007–08	$150 000	$170 000	$320 000
Total	$750 000	$850 000	$1 600 000

Who will deliver the service?

The Agricultural Research Institute of Ontario (ARIO) will enter into contracts with eligible research institutions to deliver research projects identified through a competitive process.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Phil Malcolmson
Manager, Innovation Unit
Innovation and Risk Management Branch
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food
1 Stone Road West
Guelph, ON N1G 4Y2
Tel: 519 826-4167
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E-mail: phil.malcolmson@omaf.gov.on.ca

New Directions Research Program

What is the program objective?

The objective of the competitive New Directions Research Program is to expand Ontario's agri-food industry and to increase viability of rural communities through agricultural research. The government funds research in partnership with industry, organizations, other levels of government and research institutions.

What are the expected results of the program?

Research must meet the criteria of innovation, partnership, and benefits to Ontario. For each of the interest areas there are specific research needs that research proposals need to meet. There are no specific results identified for the food quality part of the program.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

The New Directions Research Program will invest in research that addresses one or more of the following areas of interest:

- capturing value in changing markets;
- environmental sustainability;
- life sciences.

Food quality research falls under areas of interest (1) and (3).

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This is an annual program. The selection of projects is done once a year in response to a Request for Proposal process. The funding is available to successful applicants for a maximum of three years.

Who should apply for the program?

Researchers from academia, industry, agencies, organizations and other levels of government.

What funding is available?

In 2004–05, $1.3 million is available for projects in all three areas of interest. Based on the number of food-related proposals received, it is anticipated that between 20 per cent - 30 per cent of the funding will be awarded to food-related projects.

Who will deliver the service?

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food's (OMAF) Innovation and Risk Management Branch is delivering the New Directions Research Program.

Whom do I contact for more information?

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Research - University of Guelph Agreement and New Directions

What is the program objective?

The objective of these research programs is to support the basic research and innovations that make the Ontario agriculture and agri-food sector a world leader in sustainable agricultural production. The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF)/University of Guelph agreement integrates expertise from the biophysical, production and socio-economic disciplines to provide the basic knowledge and understanding of agri-environmental ecosystems in Ontario and how to have sustainable production in these systems. The competitive New Directions Research Program targets provincial priorities by investing in leading edge innovations in partnership with industry, rural communities/organizations, other levels of government and other research institutions.

What are the expected results of the program?

The programs will provide:

- Ontario specific knowledge and innovation to transfer through extension agents
- A scientific basis from which to develop education programs, regulation and policy for protection of soil, water, air and biodiversity
- Opportunities for the agri-food sector to address pressures for environmental responsibility through science and technology advancements
- Innovative solutions to reduce environmental risks and provide benefits to the health and supply of water, health of soils, and the health of air and the atmosphere and to ensure compatibility between biodiversity and agriculture
- Assessment of management practices on both an economic and environmental basis to improve on-farm adoption of sustainable practices.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

These are existing programs.

Program description

Research projects that contribute to protecting the environment occur under the Plant, Animal, and Resources Management and Environment programs at the University of Guelph. University of Guelph researchers submit proposals to address provincial priorities through a process that is administered jointly by OMAF and the Office of Research at the University of Guelph. Interdisciplinary projects and partnerships with other institutions are promoted. The priorities for research in the resource management and environment area are developed through the Ontario Agricultural Services Coordinating Committee structure. The Ontario Soil, Water and Air Research and Service Committee, the Ontario Agricultural Economics Research and Services Committee and the Ontario Agricultural and Food Engineering Committee all provide input. More information can be obtained at http://www.uoguelph.ca/research/omaf/index.shtml.

The New Directions Research Program is a competitive research program that includes environmental sustainability as one of its areas of research supported. The program uses a two-stage application process. Stage One involves a Letter of Intent submission in which researchers outline their research proposal. Letters of Intent are assessed based on established review criteria. Successful applicants in Stage One are invited to submit a full proposal (Stage Two), and are sent information about the full proposal format and deadlines. A Call for Letters of Intent is usually issued in the fall of each year.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The current University of Guelph/OMAF agreement is in place from 2002–07. The New Directions Research program is renewed annually and has been in place since 2001.

Who should apply for the program?

Programs under the University of Guelph/OMAF agreement are only available to University of Guelph researchers.

For the New Directions Program, universities, research institutes, industry, government, organizations or partnership networks with demonstrated capacity to perform quality research are invited to submit a Letter of Intent. Collaboration between stakeholders, such as universities, industry and government that will advance the quality of the proposed research is an important aspect of this program.

What funding is available?

Funding of up to a maximum of $200 000 (including overhead service costs) per project is available. Projects may be up to three years in length. The researcher is responsible to ensure that sufficient funding is secured to complete the project. Applicants should make every effort to obtain matching funding.

Who will deliver the service?

The Innovation and Risk Management Branch of the OMAF administers these programs.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Innovation and Risk Management Branch
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food
2nd Floor NW, 1 Stone Road
Guelph, ON N1G 4Y2
Tel: 1 888 4OMAFRA
Fax: 519 826-4211
E-mail: research@omaf.gov.on.ca
Website : http://www.gov.on.ca/OMAFRA/english/research/index.html

Ontario Agri-Food Research and Development Strategy

What is the program objective?

The Ontario Agri-Food Research and Development Strategy will provide a long-term vision and strategy to direct public sector funding, capacity building and coordination for agri-food research and development (R&D). This program will undertake activities to implement an R&D strategy to:

- ensure a forward-looking priority setting system;
- take advantage of new opportunities;
- provide a competitive advantage; and
- provide value to citizens of Ontario.

What are the expected results of the program?

Development and implementation of recommendations for an Ontario R&D Strategy.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

The Strategy was developed in 2004. The recommendations focus on both new initiatives and transformational changes to existing programs.

Program description

The Ontario Agri-Food Research and Development Strategy will develop a leading edge R&D system for Ontario's agri-food sector that has a forward looking priority setting system, is poised to take advantage of new opportunities, and provides a competitive advantage and value to the citizens of Ontario.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

Provincial dollars have been spent to develop the strategy. Federal dollars will allow the implementation of these recommendations, which can begin as soon as the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF) Contribution Agreement is finalized.

Who should apply for the program?

The Ontario Agri-Food R&D Strategy is not a funding program. APF funding will be used to assist with implementation of the recommendations.

What funding is available?

Ontario	$100 000
AAFC	$100 000
Total	$200 000

Who will deliver the service?

The Agricultural Research Institute of Ontario (ARIO) will enter into contracts with outside agencies and service providers to implement the recommendations.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Phil Malcolmson
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Innovation and Risk Management Branch
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food
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Fax: 519 826-4211
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Food and Agriculture Technology Research Program

What is the program objective?

The program seeks to improve the competitiveness of the agri-food industry and to respond to public concerns about food safety, protection of the environment and regional development in Quebec.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to result in:

- innovations in the development of products or processes in the agri-food sector that benefit small- or medium-size entreprises (SMEs);
- strengthening of links between SMEs and research institutions;
- response to public concerns about the agri-food industry and about regional development; and
- training of a highly specialized workforce.

Is this program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program and several projects are already underway.

Program description

The program will provide financial support for technological research projects. Funded activities will be original work aimed at finding new solutions to problems that impede the development of enterprises in the sector or service firms, or are related to a social issue. The technological research will respond, in the short- or medium-term, to a socio-economic need.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program came into effect April 1, 2003 and will end March 31, 2006. However, expenditures are authorized until March 31, 2008.

Who should apply for the program?

Research institutions (universities, collegiate educational institutions and non-government, not-for-profit research centres) in Quebec are eligible. However, for projects directed at improving business competitiveness, research institutions must be affiliated with at least one SME that is financially involved in the project.

What funding is available?

Funds available vary according to Quebec Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food's (MAPAQ) budgetary provisions. In 2003–04, funding was approved for $775 000 over three years — the duration of the project. Estimates for new projects beginning in 2004–05 are in the area of $1.8 million, again distributed over three years. Funding for a project may reach $150 000 if it is intended to improve business competitiveness and up to $250 000 if it addresses social priorities. In the latter case, MAPAQ may set maximum funding at a lower level.

Who will deliver the service?

The program is administered by the Conseil des recherches en pêche et en agroalimentaire du Québec (CORPAQ).

Whom do I contact for more information?

Secretary, CORPAQ
Tel: 418 380-2103
E-mail: corpaq@agr.gouv.qc.ca

Canada–New Brunswick Research and Innovation Program

What is the program objective?

To encourage the growth, prosperity and profitability of New Brunswick's agriculture, agri-food and agri-product sectors by supporting pre-commercial research and cluster development projects and activities.

What are the expected results of the program?

Increased research and innovation activities in NB's agriculture and bio-economy sectors will lead to the adoption and commercialization of new ideas and opportunities.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a continuation of the former Research and Innovation Companion program that has been expanded to cover more activities along the innovation continuum.

Program description

1) **Support for innovative research through:**

   research that addresses identified gaps in scientific knowledge and/or information that can potentially lead to technologies, products or processes with commercialization potential.

2) **Support for knowledge transfer and commercialization through:**

- activities that identify strategic innovative technologies that could be applied to New Brunswick;
- activities that develop, adapt or refine innovative processes, products or ideas;
- activities that encourage the adoption of innovative processes, products and/or ideas; and
- activities that demonstrate innovative processes, products and/or ideas and trigger the development of economic linkages with commercialization partners.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is available immediately and will continue until March 31, 2006.

Who should apply for the program?

Any private organization, institution or individual involved in research or innovation with the potential to improve the competitiveness or sustainability of NB's agriculture and agri-food and agri-bioeconomy sectors.

What funding is available?

Approximately $1.3 million per year.

Project applicants are expected to make significant cash and/or in-kind contributions to the project. Direct project costs such as labour, travel, materials/supplies, equipment, training, rentals and administration (to a maximum of 10 per cent) are eligible.

Who will deliver the service?

The New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture will deliver the program.

Whom do I contact for more information?

NB Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture
PO Box 6000
Fredericton, NB E3B 5H1
Tel: 506 453-3481

Canada–Nova Scotia Agri-Food Industry Development Fund (AFIDF)

What is the program objective?

The objective of the Agri-Food Industry Development Fund (AFIDF) is to encourage an entrepreneurial and market-driven view of the agriculture and food industry and its role in adaptation, economic growth and rural development in Nova Scotia.

What are the expected results of the program?

The expected results are the:

- introduction of new agriculture and food marketing technologies and systems;
- enhancement of management, organizational, leadership and technical skills in the agri-food industry;
- creation of an awareness of the value of the agri-food industry to Nova Scotia's economic growth; and
- provision of self-directed sector development, innovation and change management through agricultural industry organizations.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

The AFIDF is an existing program within the transition period of the Canada–Nova Scotia Implementation Agreement.

Program description

The program is subdivided into three categories:

1) **Category A: Business Development** facilitates organizational development, sound business management and planning to address an organization's marketing, human resource, production and financial issues and promote growth in the broader agriculture and food industry.
2) **Category B: Market Development and Industry Expansion** identifies and develops new markets for Nova Scotia agri-food products and services through education and information projects that will enhance public awareness of the benefits of agriculture and food industry to the economic well-being of the Province.
3) **Category C: Regulatory Compliance, Food Safety and Occupational Health and Safety** assists agri-business with the direct costs of addressing food and safety compliance issues.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program will be available in May 2004 and will be reviewed prior to March 31, 2006 for its eligibility to continue to the end of the Agricultural Policy Framework, March 31, 2008. The program is available on an annual basis, subject to approval of provincial budget.

Who should apply for the program?

Eligible applicants include agri-businesses and agricultural industry associations representing identifiable Nova Scotia agri-food products and services. Government agencies and universities may be eligible, provided that they can demonstrate industry support and partnership. Applicants must be legal entities.

What funding is available?

The AFIDF is subject to annual budget approval by government. Funding levels are up to 50 per cent of eligible costs on approved projects, up to a maximum of $20 000 per applicant per year.

Who will deliver the service?

The Programs and Business Risk Management Division of Nova Scotia's Department of Agriculture and Fisheries delivers the program.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Programs and Business Risk Management Division
Farm Investment Fund
176 College Road, PO Box 550
Truro, NS B2N 5E3
Tel: 902 893-6510 or (toll-free) 1 866 844-4276
Fax: 902 893-7579
E-mail: prm@gov.ns.ca
Website: www.gov.ns.ca/nsaf/prm

Canada–Nova Scotia Farm Investment Fund

Program objective

The Farm Investment Fund (FIF) supports sustainable growth in Nova Scotia farm businesses. The objective of the program is to enhance economic viability, farm and food safety and promote environmental stewardship.

What are the expected results of the program?

- enhanced skills of farm business owners and their employees
- development of marketing and value added opportunities
- increased awareness and compliance in areas of farm and public protection
- improved level of environmental management of agricultural resources

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

The FIF is an existing program within the transition period of the Canada-Nova Scotia Implementation Agreement.

Program description

The program is sub divided into 6 parts:

- **Part A - Business and Human Resource Development (Assistance Level 50%)**

  Facilitates farm business development through the application of sound business management and complements program activities provided through Federal Agriculture Policy Framework Renewal programs. See www.agr.gc.ca/renewal or 1.800.622.6232
- **Part B - Land Development**

  Contributes to improving the management of land resources.
- **Part C - Water Management**

  Financial assistance is targeted to ensuring availability of adequate supplies of quality water for the maintenance and growth of the farm's production base.
- **Part D - Regulatory Compliance Food and Farm Safety**

  The focus is on direct costs that farmers incur for their own or public protection.
- **Part E - Agroenvironmental Initiatives**

  The focus is on direct costs that farmers incur for protection of the natural environment.
- **Part F - Biodiversity Initiatives - In cooperation with Ducks Unlimited Canada**

  The focus is on assisting producers in developing or improving on-farm wildlife habitats.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program will be available in May 2004 and will be reviewed prior to March 31, 2006 for its eligibility to continue to end of the APF, March 31, 2008. The program is available on an annual basis, subject to approval of provincial budget.

Who should apply for the program?

An eligible applicant under the program is one who:

a. has a current registration under the Farm Registration Act;

b. generated an annual gross farming income of $10 000 or more based on the most recent completed year end financial statements. The income requirement is waived for new entrants.

A new entrant through this program is:

a. an applicant that has registered a farm for the first time on or after the 2002-03 registration year.

b. an applicant has purchased or inherited a farm for the first time.

c. the applicant must also be over 19 years of age and have a minimum of 25 per cent controlling interest in the farm business. Verification of new entrant status may be requested when the application is considered for funding.

What funding is available?

Approved projects can receive a maximum of $10 000 per year. In some cases if a large project(s) are completed within the year of application, the project may be eligible for up to $20 000. In this case, payments would still be paid over two years. All approved project work must be completed in the current fiscal year (prior to March 1, 2005). Unused assistance cannot be carried forward from one fiscal year to the next. All funding is on a cost shared basis. Percentage level of assistance offered on approved projects depends upon the category.

- Part A - Business and Human Resource Development (50%)
- Part B - Land Development (30%)
- Part C - Water Management (50%)
- Part D - Regulatory Compliance Food and Farm Safety (50-75%)
- Part E - Agroenvironmental Initiatives (50%)
- Part F - Biodiversity Initiatives - In cooperation with Ducks Unlimited Canada (50-70%)

Who will deliver the service?

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries' Programs and Business Risk Management Division delivers the program

Who do I contact for more information?

Programs and Business Risk Management Division
Farm Investment Fund
176 College Road, PO Box 550
Truro, NS B2N 5E3
Tel: 902 893 6510 or 1.866.844.4276
Fax: 902 893-7579
E-mail: prm@gov.ns.ca
Website: www.gov.ns.ca/nsaf/prm

Nova Scotia Graduate Research Training Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of this initiative is to provide financial awards to high-caliber scholars who are engaged in a research-based graduate program at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC) and who are conducting research that will benefit the Nova Scotia agriculture and agri-food industry.

What are the expected results of the program?

This initiative is intended to ensure a reliable supply of highly qualified personnel to meet the future needs of Nova Scotia's agri-food industry.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

The Graduate Research Training Initiative is a research-based graduate program at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC). The initiative provides funding for graduate students to conduct research that will benefit the Nova Scotia agriculture and agri-food industry.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program will be available in May 2004 and ends on March 31, 2008.

Who should apply for the program?

To be considered eligible for support, applicants must:

- be Nova Scotia residents;
- be admissible to pursue graduate studies at NSAC;
- have obtained a minimum average of 75 per cent or B in each of the last two completed years of academic study; and
- intend to pursue graduate-level research in the area of agriculture and agri-food. Research must benefit the agriculture/agri-food industry of Nova Scotia in priority areas identified under the Agricultural Policy Framework Chapters Full-time employees of Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada, farmers and Nova Scotia agri-food companies are encouraged to apply for part-time study.

What funding is available?

Value of awards:

- full-time students: $15 000 per year for up to 2 years
- part-time students: $7 500 per year for up to 2 years

Awards are intended to provide support for a maximum duration of 24 months.

Number of Awards:

Four to eight awards will be granted annually. The number of awards granted depends on the number of full-time and part-time applicants.

Who will deliver the service?

Nova Scotia will deliver the program through the NSAC Research and Graduate Studies Office.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Research and Graduate Studies Office
Manager, Research and Graduate Studies
Nova Scotia Agricultural College
P.O. Box 550
Truro, NS B2N 5E3
Tel: 902 893-6360
E-mail: jrogers@nsac.ns.ca

Canada–Nova Scotia Technology Development

What is the program objective?

The program is to support the development and adaptation of new and leading agricultural technologies and knowledge that will enhance the competitive position of the Nova Scotia Agri-Food Industry.

What are the expected results of the program?

The expected results are increased:

- industry awareness of the value of research;
- participation of industry in the support of research;
- research expertise in Atlantic Canada;
- relationship among research, education and industry;
- industry adaptation of technology; and
- identification of solutions to short and long-term water and soil management issues.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

Technology Development is an existing program within the transition period of the Canada–Nova Scotia Implementation Agreement.

Program description

The program has two categories each with five parts with focus as follows:

1) **Category A: General Technology**
    a. Production Research
    b. Environmental Research
    c. Product Innovation
    d. Research Chairs
    e. Variety Trials.
2) **Category B: Agricultural Water Resource Development**
    f. Surface Water Management
    g. Ground Water Management
    h. Water Distribution
    i. On Farm Irrigation
    j. Soil Moisture Management.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is available on an annual basis, subject to approval of provincial budget. The program will be available in May 2004 and will be reviewed prior to March 31, 2006 for its eligibility to continue to end of the Agricultural Policy Framework, March 31, 2008.

Who should apply for the program?

Eligible applicants include individuals, partnerships, corporations, co-operatives, colleges, universities and foundations, farm organizations, commodity organizations, recognized agricultural water authorities and government agencies. Demonstrated partnerships with Atlantic Canada agri-food Businesses or other research institutions is required. Priority will be given to Atlantic Canada agri-food businesses and research institutions. Interprovincial and international collaboration is encouraged where appropriate.

What funding is available?

The Technology Development 2000 program is subject to annual budget approval by government. Funding levels are related to project category as follows:

- Part a–c assistance on eligible costs may be up to 75 per cent of total project costs to a maximum of $20 000 per year per project.
- Part f–j assistance of up to 50 per cent of eligible project costs for one year to a maximum of $30 000 per project per year for individual projects, or $40 000 per project per year for community-based or multi-user projects.

Who will deliver the service?

The Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries will deliver the program through its Programs and Business Risk Management Division.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Programs and Business Risk Management Division
Farm Investment Fund
176 College Road, PO Box 550
Truro, NS B2N 5E3
Tel: 893-6510 or (toll-free) 1 866 844-4276
Fax: 902 893-7579
E-mail: prm@gov.ns.ca
Website: www.gov.ns.ca/nsaf/prm

Agriculture Research Investment Fund (ARIF)

What is the program objective?

The Agricultural Research Investment Fund was established to provide industry organizations, producers and agri-business with increased access to applied and developmental research to address the industry's priorities and opportunities in Prince Edward Island.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to:

- stimulate the planning and undertaking of short-term (normally 3 years or less) research by the private sector that has specific application to Prince Edward Island agriculture;
- support research that has the potential to yield commercial and/or economic or environmental benefits to the agriculture industry (or an identifiable sector within agriculture); and
- encourage the communication of research activities and results.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a transition program.

Program description

The Agriculture Research Investment Fund is aimed at improving the competitiveness and sustainability of Prince Edward Island's agriculture and agri-food industry.

The Fund will support research not presently mandated under existing federal or provincial and territorial programs and will assist in strengthening partnerships between industry and research and development agencies in Prince Edward Island and throughout the Maritimes.

The Fund will encourage short-term (normally less than 3 years) problem-oriented research with direct application to the industry. It will support applied and developmental research on livestock and crop production systems; and the development of new technologies, products and processes.

When will the program be available, end or transition ?

Applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis. Funding decisions will be made in January, April, July and October of each year. To be considered for funding, applications must be received 30 days prior to the first day of these designated months.

Who should apply for the program?

Commodity boards, producer and industry associations, individual producers and private businesses in Prince Edward Island are all eligible to apply. Private businesses include corporations, partnerships, sole proprietorships and cooperatives.

What funding is available?

For commodity boards and/or producer and industry organizations, the program will contribute up to three dollars for every one dollar contributed by applicants.

For individual producers and private corporations, the program will contribute one dollar for every one dollar contributed by the applicant.

Who will deliver the service?

P.E.I. Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Officer P.E.I.
Agricultural Research Investment Fund Inc.
P.E.I. Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture
P.O. Box 2000
Charlottetown, PE C1A 7N8
Tel: 902 368-5707
Fax: 902 368-4857
E-mail: bgmatheson@gov.pe.ca

Evaluation and Adoption of New Technologies in the Agri-Foods Industry

What is the program objective?

The objective of this program is to provide support to agri-foods industry to evaluate and introduce new technology that is not currently used in Newfoundland and Labrador.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to result in new appropriate equipment introduced to ensure a competitive agri-foods industry.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an active program.

Program description

This program supports specialized planting, harvesting and storage techniques. Support is also provided for the development and adoption of production and slaughter; energy conservation and food safety and food quality systems. The program also supports on-farm crop and fruit storage structures and livestock facilities not currently used in the province.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Agricultural producers, processors, partnerships, corporations, cooperatives, governments and not-for-profit organizations.

What funding is available?

Assistance may be provided up to 50 per cent of actual costs for individual agricultural producers, processors, partnerships, or corporations. Up to 75 per cent of actual costs for cooperatives or farm groups representing three or more agribusinesses and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and not-for-profit organizations could be provided.

Who will deliver the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Market Development Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of this initiative is to provide the resources necessary to investigate and capture new market opportunities and enhance the competitive capability of the industry in Newfoundland and Labrador.

What are the expected results of the program?

The initiative is expected to result in development and implementation of marketing strategies for established and new agricultural products.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an active program.

Program description

This initiative provides support to cooperative marketing activities; secondary processing and value-added initiatives; product/export development activities; industry development strategies; participation in trade shows; and the technical and financial support of marketing organizations including farmers' markets and agri-tourism. Industry associations and government may also be eligible for sector-specific promotional activities and agriculture awareness activities.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Agricultural producers, processors, partnerships, corporations, cooperatives, governments and not-for-profit organizations.

What funding is available?

Assistance may be provided up to 50 per cent of actual costs for individual agricultural producers, processors, partnerships or corporations. Up to 75 per cent of actual costs for cooperatives or farm groups representing three or more agribusinesses and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and not-for-profit organizations could be provided.

Who will deliver the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

New Directions Research Program

What is the program objective?

The objective of this program in Newfoundland and Labrador is to contribute to increasing scientific collaboration among governments, academic and research institutes, organizations and industry in priority areas.

What are the expected results of the program?

The expected results of the program are:

- advances in science and technology accelerated;
- knowledge gaps in the development of the value-added chain identified and filled; and
- increased investment and return in the province's bio-based economy.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an active program.

Program description

The program supports activities that extend knowledge to the industry, government and the public regarding the value and issues surrounding new agri-food technologies. The program also assists in commercializing of new agri-food technologies and coordinating of agri-food life sciences research.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Government, not-for-profit organizations and academic and research institutes.

What funding is available?

Assistance may provide up to 100 per cent of the cost for governments, not-for-profit organizations and institutions.

Who will deliver the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Newfoundland and Labrador Rural Agricultural Development Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of this initiative is to provide funding to industry associations, cooperatives and regionally or provincially based economic development projects.

What are the expected results of the program?

The expected results of the initiative are:

- enhanced economic sustainability; and
- commercialization and diversification of the agriculture industry.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an active program.

Program description

Proposals will be accepted for projects that enhance the economic sustainability of the industry; support the commercialization of the agriculture industry; introduce new technologies and processes; support industry diversification and/or secondary processing. Proposals that further enhance the competitiveness of the industry are also considered.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Industry associations, cooperatives and regionally or provincially based economic development projects.

What funding is available?

Assistance may be provided up to 50 per cent of actual costs for processors, partnerships, or corporations. Up to 75 per cent of actual costs for cooperatives or farm groups representing three or more agribusinesses and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and not-for-profit organizations could be provided.

Who will deliver the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Northern Agri-Foods Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of the Northern Agri-Foods Initiative is to assist in the development and commercialization of the agrifoods industry in the Labrador region of Newfoundland and Labrador.

What are the expected results of the program?

The initiative is expected to result in:

- increased production and commercialization of established agriculture products;
- diversification of present and new operations; and
- improved marketing and food safety in the agri-foods industry.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an active program.

Program description

The Northern Agrifoods Initiative is designed to encourage and foster diversification and commercialization of livestock, crops, fruits and native berries through adaptive and scientific research, economic analysis, human resource development, marketing and various food safety initiatives.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Producers, processors, partnerships corporations and cooperatives may be eligible based on reported gross farm sales.

What funding is available?

Applicants may be eligible for maximum funding of $10 000 per year.

Who will deliver the service?

Department of Natural Resources

Whom do I contact for more information?

Agriculture Representative
Tel: 709 896-3405
E-mail: shelleyclemens@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Secondary Processing and Product Development Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of this initiative is to provide assistance to further process and develop products from the agrifoods primary sector in Newfoundland and Labrador.

What are the expected results of the program?

The initiative is expected to result in development of more efficient secondary processing ability and improved agricultural products.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an active initiative.

Program description

The initiative supports activities that encourage value-added processing from local agricultural products, such as juices, cheese, yogurt, butter, jams, smoked bacon and sausages.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Agricultural producers, processors, partnerships, corporations, cooperatives, governments and not-for-profit organizations.

What funding is available?

Assistance may be provided up to 50 per cent of actual costs for individual agricultural producers, processors, partnerships or corporations. Up to 75 per cent of actual costs for cooperatives or farm groups representing three or more agribusinesses and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and not-for-profit organizations could be provided.

Who will deliver the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Strategic Development for Science and Innovation

What is the program objective?

The objective of this program in Newfoundland and Labrador is to increase cooperation between the government and the agriculture industry to nurture an innovative climate, allowing industry to adapt and flourish in future markets.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to result in new equipment, crops, and techniques introduced for agriculture production.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an active program.

Program description

Governments and industry will be working together to achieve the following goals:

- realigning public science resources;
- enhancing coordination along the whole value chain; and
- nurturing an innovative climate.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This program in ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

No funding is available to producers.

Who will deliver the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
The John Cabot Building, 10th Floor
10 Barter's Hill
P.O Box 1878
St. John's, NL A1C 5R4
Tel: 709 772-4063
Fax: 709 772-4803
Website: www.agr.gc.ca/puttingcanadafirst

Evaluation and Adoption of New Crop Varieties, Non-Traditional Crops, Cropping and Storage Systems

What is the program objective?

The objective of this program is to provide resources to industry to test and evaluate new crop varieties and livestock species suitable to Newfoundland and Labrador, and new innovative cropping, livestock, machinery and storage systems.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to results in structured analysis of new varieties of crops and livestock.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This program is available in partnership with the Department of Natural Resources for research and development to test and evaluate crops and livestock systems that are new to the province.

Program description

The program provide support for new planting, harvesting and storage techniques; variety trials; new livestock production practices; or any other project that requires a scientific approach to evaluation and testing of innovative agri-food systems.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Agricultural producers, processors, partnerships, corporations, cooperatives, governments and not-for-profit organizations.

What funding is available?

Assistance may be provided up to 75 per cent of actual costs for individual agricultural producers, processors, partnerships, corporations and cooperatives; and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and not-for-profit organizations.

Who will deliver the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Agriculture Policy Framework Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of the initiative is to encourage the development and commercialization of a northern agri-foods industry in the Northwest Territories (N.W.T.). Specifically, this funding will encourage and foster diversification and commercialization of livestock, crops, fruits and native berries through adaptive and scientific research, economic analysis, human resource development, marketing and various food safety initiatives. It also aims to help guide the Northern Agri-foods Initiative by developing a Northern Agri-foods Development Strategy to identify opportunities to further advance the agri-foods industry in the N.W.T. The strategy is being developed in partnership with various territorial, municipal and federal government departments, farmers, aboriginal groups and other industry stakeholders.

What are the expected results of the program?

The expected results of the initiative are:

- broad acceptance of a Northern Agri-foods Development Strategy;
- development and expansion of the northern agri-foods sector; and
- increased participation by northern residents.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new initiative.

Program description

The initiative is twofold:

1) Land Sustainability and Diversification Activity:

This activity includes the clearing and breaking of land and other land improvements, such as initial applications of limestone, fertilizer and seed or rootstock, needed for land sustainability and diversification purposes.

Funding will not be provided for land sustainability and diversification; nor will it be provided for land enhancement activities to land that was previously improved with assistance from other federal–provincial cost-shared programs.

2) Pilot Project:

This program provides support for the undertaking of pilot projects aimed at determining merit of new crops, technology, cultivation and management practices. The program will provide up to 100 per cent support to projects that advance innovation and methodology, leading to greater diversification of the production sector of the N.W.T. industry.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is currently available.

Who should apply for the program?

All producers, individuals, agriculture groups, not-for-profit organizations, governments and other organizations are considered eligible.

What funding is available?

All producers, individuals, agriculture groups, not-for-profit organizations, governments and other organizations are considered eligible for most programs under the Agriculture Policy Framework (APF) agreement. Where applicable, applicants must have reported a minimum of $10 000 in gross farm sales to Canada Revenue Agency in at least one of the last three tax years, or be considered a new entrant. All agricultural commodities, including supply management, are eligible for APF programming.

Funding for agricultural groups and organizations, not-for-profit associations and governments will be based upon the identified need of the project, the project's benefit to the territorial agri-foods industry, the overall viability of the project, and the expected impact, reach and results of the project.

Who will deliver the service?

The program is administered by the Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Contacts:

Department of Resources,
Wildlife and Economic Development
Government of the Northwest Territories

Regional Offices:

Inuvik Region
Business Services Officer
Bag 1, Inuvik
NT X0E 0T0
Tel: 867 777-7103
Fax: 867 777-7321

Sahtu Region
Business Development Officer
Box 130, Norman Wells
NT X0E 0V0
Tel: 867 587-4981
Fax: 867 587-2204

DehCho Region
Business Development Officer
Box 240, Fort Simpson
NT X0E 0N0
Tel: 867 695-7461
Fax: 867 695-2442

North Slave Region
Business Development Officer
Box 2668, Yellowknife
NT X1A 2P9
Tel: 867 874-7250
Fax: 867 873-6230

South Slave Region
Business Development Officer
156 Miron Dr., Hay River
NT X0E 0R2
Tel 867 875-5562
Fax: 867 875-5551

For further information please contact Gene Hachey
Resource Development Officer
Tel: 867 874-4567
E-mail: gene_hachey@gov.nt.ca

Canada–Yukon Innovation Programs

Science and Innovation programs in the Yukon are designed to provide scientific and technical support aimed at developing innovative approaches to the diversification of the agri-food industry. The overall goals include realigning public science resources, enhancing coordination along the whole value chain and nurturing an innovative climate.

There are four Science and Innovation Programs in the Yukon:

- Circumpolar Education and Exchange Program
- Circumpolar Research and Demonstration
- Yukon Research and Demonstration
- Circumpolar Ambassador

What are the programs' objectives?

Circumpolar Education and Exchange Program: Provides learning opportunities for farm mangers, workers, youth and service providers to participate in information exchange with other circumpolar regions with emphasis on sustainability of agriculture in these regions.

Circumpolar Research and Demonstration: Provides the opportunity to share or carry out research with other circumpolar regions. The program also supports collaboration in obtaining research results from other circumpolar regions.

Yukon Research and Demonstration: Complements and advances research and demonstration programs in the territory that are currently carried out by the Yukon Government's Agriculture Branch.

Circumpolar Ambassador: Establishes and fosters a better working relationship with the Canadian Circumpolar Ambassador. Through communication and close collaboration with this office, more educational, research and funding opportunities will open up in the territory.

What funding is available and to whom?

Circumpolar Education and Exchange Program: Assistance may be provided up to 100 per cent for actual costs such as presentation preparation, transportation, accommodation, meals and conference registration fees.

Circumpolar Research and Demonstration: Assistance may be provided up to 100 per cent for actual costs such as material and supplies. Up to 50 per cent may be provided for travel and transportation expenses.

Yukon Research and Demonstration: Assistance may be provided up to 100 per cent for costs such as material, supplies, project design, research and operation costs (eg. irrigation). Up to 50 per cent may be provided for actual cost of labour and equipment.

Circumpolar Ambassador: Assistance my be provided up to 100 per cent for actual costs such as travel, communication links, presentations, accommodation and meals.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Agriculture Branch
Department of Energy, Mines and Resources
P.O. Box 2703
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2C6
Tel: 867 667-5838
Fax: 867 393-6222
E-mail: agriculture@gov.yk.ca

Renewal Programs

Renewal programming is designed to provide new and established farm families with assistance to develop the skills and knowledge and access the tools and advice to help them respond to consumer and market demands and increase profitability.

The agricultural and agri-food sector is evolving rapidly to keep pace with advantages in science and technology and the global marketplace. As a result, farm operations are becoming larger and more complex, and producers continually need to adapt. They do this by acquiring knowledge, developing new skills and incorporating strategic planning and management activities on an ongoing basis.

Renewal programs will help producers, new and established, assess their situations and options, and acquire the skills and resources they need to capture the opportunities offered by the marketplace and science and innovation to succeed in the 21st century.

Federal Programs

- Canadian Farm Business Advisory Services include:
  - Farm Business Assessment (FBA)
  - Specialized Business Planning Services (SBPS)
- Farm Debt Mediation Service
- Planning and Assessment for Value-Added Enterprises (PAVE)
- Canadian Agriculture Skills Service (CASS)
- Skills and Learning Initiative
- Capturing Opportunities from Science and Innovation
- Benchmarking for Success and Agricultural Services Website

Provincial and Territorial Programs

Alberta

- Building Private Sector Capacity
- Business Development
- Feasibility Assessment Services
- Leadership and Management Training
- Business Risk Assessment and Mitigation Strategies

Saskatchewan

- Renewal Program Delivery
- Rural Renewal Action Planning Program
- Rural Health Program
- Value Chain Program

Manitoba

- Crop and Livestock Diversification Program
- Food Development Centre — Equipment
- Food Development Centre
- Managing Risk Education Program
- Manitoba Agri-Ventures Initiatives (MAVI)
- Project 2000 — Mentoring and Your Future in Farming
- Rural Extension Service
  - Home Economics
  - Agriculture Representatives
  - Crop and Livestock Diversification
  - Farm Management

Ontario

- Agricultural Management Institute (AMI)

Quebec

- Support Program For Quebec's Sectoral Panels
- Agriculture Consultants Support Program

New Brunswick

- New Brunswick Beginning Farmer Initiative
- New Brunswick Agricultural Leadership Initiative

Nova Scotia

- Canada–Nova Scotia Promotion and Awareness
- Nova Scotia New Opportunities Business Development and Investment Initiative

Prince Edward Island

- Future Farmer Program
- FarmNet

Newfoundland and Labrador

- Agri-Foods Business Development Initiative
- Diversification Initiatives
- Farm Succession Planning Initiative
- Human Resource Development Initiative
- New Entrants Development Initiative

Yukon

- Yukon–Canada Renewal Programs

Canadian Farm Business Advisory Services (CFBAS)

What is the program objective?

The goal of this program is to provide financial assistance to access a range of advisory services to help producers set goals for their business and develop plans to meet their goals.

What are the expected results of the program?

This program will help increase income and profitability for farmers through their adoption of beneficial farm management practices.

Is this a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new federal–provincial–territorial service.

Program description

First component: Farm Business Assessment (FBA)

Successful businesses set goals for the short term and have a vision of where they want to be in the long term. The first component of the program will provide farm financial consultant expertise to individual farmers to help them assess their farming businesses and develop action plans for the future.

In addition, up to one day of follow-up on the implementation of a farmer's action plan will be provided on request. For beginning farmers, up to three days of follow-up will be allowed over the period of the program.

Second component: Specialized Business Planning Services (SBPS)

The second component will provide financial assistance to farmers to help them develop specialized business plans. These plans will include comprehensive business plans for diversification, expansion, marketing, risk management or succession planning.

Who should apply for the program?

Farmers with annual gross farm sales in excess of $10 000.

What funding is available?

FBA: Up to $2 000 (farmer pays $100, governments pay $1 900) worth of service will be provided to each farmer. Follow-up will be funded at a maximum of $400 for one day of service, or a maximum of $1 200 for three days of service for beginning farmers.

SBPS: 50 per cent of the consultant's cost, up to $8 000 will be funded for one participant; $16 000 for two participants; $24 000 for three participants; and $25 000 per project for four or more participants over the life of the program.

Total government (federal–provincial–municipal) assistance must not exceed 75 per cent of eligible expenditures. Funding from more than one Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) source is not permitted.

Who will deliver the service?

Delivery details vary by province. AAFC's Canadian Agri-Renewal Services offices can provide additional information.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Additional information can be obtained from AAFC's Canadian Agri-Renewal Services offices:
Tel: (toll-free) 1 866 452-5558
Website: www.agr.gc.ca.

Farm Debt Mediation Service (FDMS)

What is the program objective?

The Farm Debt Mediation Service (FDMS) is to provide financial counselling for insolvent farmers and mediation between farmers and their creditors.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to help insolvent farmers, who apply to the program, arrive at mutually satisfactory arrangements to address financial problems.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

FDMS is an existing program.

Program description

The FDMS is a statutory program, which provides insolvent farmers and their creditors with mediation services pursuant to the *Farm Debt Mediation Act* and Regulations. An insolvent individual, corporation, partnership, cooperative or other association engaged in farming for commercial purposes is eligible to apply to the FDMS. Applicants are provided with the services of qualified financial counsellors to conduct a financial review and prepare a recovery plan for farming operations. Qualified mediators are also available to assist in negotiations between farmers and creditors to help them arrive at a mutually satisfactory arrangement. The service is private, confidential and economical.

The services available to eligible applicants under the FDMS can include a stay of proceedings, a detailed review of the farmer's financial affairs, preparation of financial statements for the farm operation, a recovery plan and, finally and most importantly, mediation between the farmer and creditors. The recovery plan, for presentation at the mediation meeting, is chosen by the farmer and prepared on his or her behalf by a Farm Debt Mediation Service Consultant.

An application under the *Farm Debt Mediation Act* for a stay of proceedings, financial review, recovery plan and mediation provides producers with protection to suspend collection actions by creditors against assets during the mediation process and eliminates the need for legal protection from seizure of assets by creditors during the mediation process.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program continues to be available in all provinces and territories.

Who should apply for the program?

Insolvent farmers.

What funding is available?

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada offers this private and confidential service at no cost to the farmers and their creditors.

Who will deliver the service?

FDMS are provided through five regional offices throughout Canada.

Whom do I contact for more information?

For more information on FDMS:
Tel: (toll-free) 1 866 452-5556
Website: www.agr.gc.ca/progser/fdms_e.phtml

Planning and Assessment for Value-added Enterprises (PAVE)

What is the program objective?

This program is to provide farmers with access to advice, which will enable them to make decisions on whether or not to pursue a value-added opportunity.

Another program objective is to improve the chances of obtaining debt or equity capital from public and private financial institutions and individual private investors.

What are the expected results of the program?

This program will help increase income and profitability for farmers through value-added activities.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new federal–provincial–territorial program.

Program description

The Planning and Assessment for Value-Added Enterprises (PAVE) program is designed to support the development of feasibility assessments and business comprehensive plans for the establishment or expansion of value-added enterprises which will improve the chances for the successful start-up and operation of the business project.

It will ensure that those considering new business ventures or expansion are fully aware of what is involved, preferably before committing significant capital.

In addition, it will encourage alliances among farmers establishing value-added enterprises.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

PAVE is available in all provinces and territories.

Who should apply for the program?

Farmers with annual gross farm sales in excess of $10 000 and beginning farmers. A beginning farmer is someone who plans to establish a farm or who has already owned or operated a farm for at least six years and can demonstrate the operation will generate annual gross fram sales of $10 000.

What funding is available?

Eligible projects will be funded up to 50 per cent of the consultant's eligible costs for the preparation of a feasibility assessment and/or business plan. The maximum eligible funding is up to $10 000 for an individual applicant; up to $20 000 for two participants; and up to $25 000 for three or more participants over the life of the program. Non-farmers may be members of a project but are not eligible for PAVE funding.

Total government (federal, provincial and municipal) assistance must not exceed 75 per cent of eligible expenditures. Funding for projects under this program from more than one Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) source is not permitted.

Who will deliver the service?

Delivery details vary by province. AAFC's Canadian Agri-Renewal Services offices can provide additional information.

Whom do I contact for more information?

For Additional information contact AAFC's Canadian Agri-Renewal Services offices:
Tel: (toll-free) 1 866 452 5558
Website: www.agr.gc.ca.

Canadian Agricultural Skills Services (CASS)

What is the program objective?

The objective of the Canadian Agricultural Skills Services (CASS) will be to help farmers and their spouses increase their family income through improved farm practices or through increased off-farm income.

What are the expected results of the program?

This program will help increase income and profitability of farmers through learning activities that have been validated through a skills and needs assessment process and the development of an Individual Learning Plan (ILP).

Is this a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new service.

Program description

Assistance will be provided to access training in areas such as improved farm practices, business management, accounting, finance, human resource management; training for other employment; or training to acquire skills for starting a new business. Financial support, such as tuition fees for courses, textbooks and travel while attending training away from home, will be provided for eligible clients with an approved ILP who are pursuing new skills to capture new opportunities.

Who should apply for the program?

Farm families with a net family income of $45 000 or less are eligible to apply for the CASS.

What funding is available?

- An Assessment and an Individual Learning Plan (ILP) valued at $2 000 will be developed for all eligible participants.
- Beginning farmers, regardless of family income, receive a skills assessment and an ILP. A beginning farmer is someone who plans to establish a farm or who has already owned or operated a farm for at least six years and can demonstrate the operation will generate annual gross farm sales of $10 000 or more.
- Approved farmers and their spouses are each eligible to receive benefits. The maximum benefits include training and related costs for the duration of an ILP or the program (net family income based on a three-year average):
  - less than $35 000 — eligible for benefits up to $16 000;
  - $35 001 to $40 000 — eligible for benefits up to $12 000; and
  - $40 001 to $45 000 — eligible for benefits up to $8 000.
- Support for formal and informal learning training.
- Support for related costs, i.e. dependent care, travel costs and other allowances while on travel status.
- Eligible benefits include costs associated with skills and learning activities, such as tuition and textbooks.

Who will deliver the service?

Provinces and territories, third-party delivery agents or Human Resources Skills Development Canada.

Whom do I contact for more information?

For additional information contact AAFC's
Canadian Agri-Renewal Services offices:
Tel: (toll-free) 1 866 452-5558
Website: www.agr.gc.ca

Skills and Learning Initiative

What is the objective of the initiative?

The objective of this initiative is to provide support to organizations involved in producer skills development with a goal of enhancing the industry skills and learning infrastructure related to the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF).

What are the expected results of the initiative?

The skills and learning initiative is expected to enhance APF-related skills amongst farmers.

Is this a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new initiative.

Initiative description

This initiative focuses on leveraging partnerships between government, public institutions and private sector firms, including media entities, engaged in skills transfer. It also provides financial support to organizations to enable them to deliver skills to farmers.

In-kind support and/or funding was provided to:

- Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCC) to explore areas for partnership with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC). The funded projects were: Profiling the Student Market, Profiles of College Advisory Groups, Co-ordinated Agricultural Curriculum, and Innovative Practices in Agriculture Learning.
- Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) to perform a sector study. Producers met in November 2003 and unanimously endorsed further exploration toward the formation of a national agriculture human resource sector council. An industry steering committee, led by the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, was struck over the winter with funding provided by HRSDC.
- Canadian Farm Business Management Council (CFBMC) to expand its work to further support APF priorities. In addition to current successful initiatives, CFBMC will: provide services for beginning farmers, resources and initiatives for a better understanding of business risk management, help to determine future skills needed by farmers, disseminate information to farmers on new developments in science and technology, and will develop and deliver other new innovative farm business management tools, information and services.
- Canadian Outstanding Young Farmers Program (COYFP) to provide a positive platform to celebrate and recognize progress and excellence in agriculture in Canada.

When will the initiative be available, end or transition?

Activities related to this initiative are currently underway.

Who should apply for the initiative?

Not applicable.

What funding is available?

Not applicable.

Who will deliver the service?

Not applicable.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Acting Director, Renewal
Room 459, 930 Carling Avenue
Ottawa, ON K1A 0C5
Tel: 613 715-5569
E-mail: macdougall@agr.gc.ca

Capturing Opportunities from Science and Innovation

What is the objective of the program?

The objective of the initiative is to help agricultural producers, their families and rural communities capture new opportunities from science and innovation.

What are the expected results of the program?

The initiative is expected to increase income and profitability for farmers who take advantage of advances and innovation in agriculture and agri-food research.

Is this a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new initiative.

Program description

The initiative will conduct activities that will result in:

- development of the federal position and a federal-provincial-territorial approach for capturing opportunities, including the identification of initiatives or activities;
- examination of market information sources available to producers;
- identification of policy and program changes needed to foster co-ops;
- identification of farm-level regulatory constraints and means to address them; and
- identification and promotion of best practices for technology transfer (this activity will complement the "provision of information to farmers about new developments in science and innovation" service being delivered by the Canadian Farm Management Business Council).

When will the initiative be available, end or transition?

Findings from activities undertaken through this initiative will be used to fine-tune policies and programs available to producers.

Who should apply for the program?

Not applicable. The initiative will not provide direct benefits to agricultural producers. Activities undertaken as part of this initiative are expected to be used by federal, provincial and territorial governments to enhance the suite of policies and programs available to producers.

What funding is available?

Not applicable.

Who will deliver the service?

The delivery agent for new initiatives will be determined at a later date, if necessary.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Senior Policy Analyst
930 Carling Avenue, 6th Floor
Ottawa, ON K1A 0C5
Tel: 613 759-7208
E-mail: cummingb@agr.gc.ca

Benchmarking for Success and Agricultural Services Website

What these objective of the program?

The objective of these web-based services are to equip producers with information on renewal programs and initiatives, and tools to help them assess the performance and potential profitability of their farm with other farms of similar size, specialization and region.

What are the expected results of the program?

These services are expected to help producers make the best business management decisions for their operation.

Is this a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new service.

Program description

This web-based service offers the following products:

- An interactive financial benchmarking website/CD-Rom that allows producers to compare their farm data with other farms of similar size, specialization and region. The results will provide producers with indications as to whether their operations are performing below, at, or above the average.
- An agricultural services web page that provides producers with links to federal and provincial agricultural services and programs available in their areas and information on best management practices, mentoring and farm clubs.

When will the initiative be available, end or transition?

The interactive benchmarking site, CD-Rom and the listing of agricultural programs and services are already available. The agricultural services and Benchmark for Success tools are updated on a regular basis with statistics and information on best management practices, mentoring, etc.

Who should apply for the program?

This is a free service available to all producers.

What funding is available?

The program provides no direct funding to farmers. Benchmarking data used for the interactive benchmarking tool come from existing Statistics Canada data.

Who will deliver the service?

The websites and CDs are maintained by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC).

Whom do I contact for more information?

Contact your local Canadian Agri-Renewal Services office:
Tel: (toll-free) 1 866 452-5558
Website: www.agr.gc.ca/renewal

Building Private Sector Capacity

What are the program objectives?

The objectives of this program are that:

- business leaders in the agriculture industry will have access to technical expertise and expert advice from a variety of public and private-sector agencies and individuals; and
- business leaders will adopt new business practices and use leading edge information in making business decisions.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to provide:

- strong delivery infrastructure for specific management information and new competitiveness information;
- technical experts available for industry leaders; and
- smooth transition from reliance on government for management information to increased reliance on private-sector sources.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

Business Management Innovations Branch and other staff in Agriculture, Agri-Food and Rural Development (AAFRD) will work to develop relations with agencies that can effectively deliver training and education in the management area and on-going consultant services. AAFRD will provide these institutions with existing and new research, information and tools. The federally funded consultant services provide an excellent vehicle to help managers make the transition from government to private sector sources of support and information.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

AAFRD is building strong relations with consultants working in the federally funded programs. This work will continue over the next 4 years. AAFRD is also exiting the area of management training and working with colleges and universities to build their capacity.

Who should apply for the program?

The target group for these programs are agribusiness managers who are interested in and capable of:

- growing their businesses;
- taking advantage of new opportunities;
- being more competitive; and
- working in strategic alliances.

Consultants and education institutions who are serving the above clients are also part of the target audience.

What funding is available?

The Business Management Innovations Branch has the equivalent of three full-time staff working in this area. The minimum value of support to this area is $260 000.

Who will deliver the service?

Not applicable.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Business Management Innovations Branch
201-5030 50 St.
Olds, AB T4H 1S1
Tel: 403 556-4278
E-mail: Anita.Lunden@gov.ab.ca

Business Development

Agriculture, Agri-Food and Rural Development's (AAFRD) matching contributions in this area come from the work of the Business Development Branch in the Business and Innovation Division and the Agriculture Entrepreneurship Action Team in the Agricultural Entrepreneurship Division. For the most part the work in this area does not consist of programs to which primary producers apply and there is no flow of government funds to producers.

What is the program objective?

The program's objective is to capture maximum returns available at the farm gate by:

- identifying and evaluating prospects for existing commodities; and
- identifying and evaluating prospects for new commodities and agriculture related enterprises.

What are the expected results of the program?

As a result of the work of the two branches, agribusinesses will have access to:

- individuals with experience in developing and growing successful businesses;
- market research;
- events that provide them with exposure to new markets;
- training, consultation and coaching;
- resources for business growth; and
- assistance to overcome barriers.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing initiative from the Business and Innovation Division.

Program description

The Business Development Branch and Action Team have expertise in the following areas:

- facilitation and alliance building;
- market research and development;
- feasibility and business assessment;
- development of industry organizations; and
- industry advocacy.

The Business Development Branch consists of "opportunity hunters". These are specialists who focus on growth strategies that capitalize on market opportunities in many sectors of agriculture. They work with leading producers and affiliated associations. Staff work largely with industry associations to support the development of specific commodities or industry opportunities. Current areas include organics and honey, among others.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The general service and skills areas are ongoing, however the commodities and/or opportunities worked on vary over time.

Who should apply for the program?

The target group for these programs are agribusiness managers who are interested in and capable of:

- growing their businesses;
- taking advantage of new opportunities;
- being more competitive; and
- working in strategic alliances.

Consultants and education institutions are also part of the target audience.

What funding is available?

Between the two branches there are at least 30 full-time staff working in this area. They also access funds from various sources, such as AAFRD's New Initiatives Fund, and other funding from agencies such as Economic Development. The minimum value of support in this area is $2 500 000.

Who will deliver the service?

Business Development Branch and the Agriculture Entrepreneurship Action Team.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Business Development Branch, AAFRD
Rm 304, 7000-113 St.
Edmonton, AB T6H 5T6

Feasibility Assessment Services

What are the program objectives?

The program is expected to:

- In the short term to work with the industry to assess potential for Alberta producers to take advantage of new market opportunities.
- In the intermediate ensure that up to date and impartial data to base business decisions and plans is available for associations and, where appropriate, individual producers.
- In the long term the overall growth of the agriculture industry, which is assessed through the Growth Strategy Initiative, will be achieved by Alberta producers making sound investment decisions.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to:

- In the short term, to work with industry to assist the potential for Alberta producers to take advantage of new market opportunities.
- In the intermediate term, ensure that up to date and impartial data to base business decisions and plans on is available for associations and, where appropriate, individual producers.
- In the long term, the overall growth of the agriculture industry, which is assessed the Growth Strategy Initiative, will be acheived by Alberta producers and processors making sound investment decisions.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program, created in 2002.

Program description

The work is conducted by the staff of the Feasibility Team in the Ag Entrepreneurship Division. They accept proposals from both internal and industry groups wishing to have an assessment of the feasibility of a new opportunity area. Project applications are submitted to the team on an on-going basis. The Feasibility Team meets regularly to review applications submitted. The team commits to informing their decision within one month of the application submission if a feasibility assessment can be conducted by the team.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This is an ongoing program for the time-being.

Who should apply for the program?

Services of the Feasibility Team are available to a variety of industry and government groups including the following:

- funding agencies, financial institutions and researchers;
- Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development (AAFRD) staff; and
- agri-preneurs and the agriculture industry.

What funding is available?

The Feasibility Team has the equivalent of nine full-time staff dedicated to this area. In addition, they access funds from various internal sources, and some applicants supply part of the funding for the assessments. The minimum value of the support in this area is $1 000 000.

Who will deliver the service?

Ag Feasibility Team, AAFRD.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Ag Feasibility Team, Ag-Entrepreneurship Division
AAFRD

Tel: 780 968-3511

Leadership and Management Training

Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development (AAFRD) matching contribution in this area comes from the work of the Business Management Innovations Branch (BMIB) in the Business and Innovations Division and the Economics Units in the Economics and Competitiveness Division. For the most part, the work in this area does not consist of programs to which primary producers apply and there is no flow of government funds to producers. BMIB is responsible for the advanced leadership area described below and the Economics Unit is responsible for the AgriProfits program.

What is the program objective?

The program's objective is to provide agribusiness managers and leaders with:

- access to opportunities to develop advanced leadership and management skills; and
- information and tools required to stay competitive in a changing industry.

What are the expected results of the program?

Agribusiness managers will:

- advance their leadership and management skills through non-traditional learning approaches that increase the on-farm application of concepts and strategies learned; and
- have a more accurate assessment of their costs of production and how they rank against other producers.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

The AgriProfits program is an existing program. It has been enhanced and its reach extended as a result of the APF Renewal component.

The BMIB was created in April of 2002. The Competitive Advantage program for Agriculture has been in place for 4 years. All the other proposed programs are new in 2004–05.

Program description

Advanced Leadership: These programs and projects of BMIB include:

- Competitive Advantage Program for Agriculture: 12-day program offered at Olds College;
- mentorship programs; and
- management club support.

AgriProfits: This program provides annual cost and return survey that looks at the different enterprises in a farm operation. It establishes benchmarks for production costs in the province. It is used by farmers and consultants in supporting farm business analysis and management tools and also internally for monitoring the industry.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

Advanced Leadership: All programs available in 2004–05. Most programs will continue to be available for several years; however, they will be passed to other agencies for ongoing delivery.

AgriProfits: Available on an ongoing basis.

Who should apply for the program?

The target group for these programs are agribusiness managers who are interested in and capable of:

- growing their businesses;
- taking advantage of new opportunities;
- being more competitive; and
- working in strategic alliances.

Consultants and educational institutions who serve the above clients are also part of the target audience.

What funding is available?

The advanced leadership area is supported by the equivalent of two full-time staff, some AAFRD contract dollars and funds from other sources. Value of the support is at least $200 000 per year.

The AgriProfits program is supported by the equivalent of two full-time staff in the Economics Units as well as contract dollars. Value of the support is at least $200 000 per year.

Who will deliver the service?

Advanced Leadership: BMIB, Olds College and various private- and public-sector partners.

AgriProfits: Economics Unit will manage the program. Surveys completed by numerous private-sector contractors.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Advanced Leadership:
Lead, BMIB,
AAFRD Office
201 5030 50 St.
Olds, AB T4H 1S1
Tel: 403 556-4316
E-mail: morley.kjargaard@gov.ab.ca

AgriProfits:
Senior Economist,
Economics Unit, AAFRD
303 JG O'Donoghue
700-112 St.
Edmonton, AB T6H 5T6
E-mail: dale.kaleil@gov.ab.ca

Business Risk Assessment and Mitigation Strategies

Background: Agriculture, Agri-Food and Rural Development's (AAFRD) matching contribution in this area comes from the work of the Business Management Innovations Branch (BMIB) in the Business and Innovations Division and the Economics Units in the Economics and Competitiveness Division. For the most part, the work in these areas does not consist of programs to which primary producers apply and there is no flow of government funds to producers in Alberta.

What is the program objective?

The program objective is twofold:

1) Increase the number of financially sustainable primary producers who can supply products to the supply chains supporting a value-added industry.
2) Support the competitiveness of individual business units by providing competitiveness information and analysis.

What are the expected results of the program?

Agribusiness managers will have access to:

- risk management tools and information to help them manage the effects of events such as BSE, reduction in government subsidies and drought;
- gather industry information with analysis of its importance to individual business units;
- financial analysis and feasibility on new opportunities at the level of individual business units; and
- strategies to help identify and resolve barriers to business growth.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

Most of the work in this area is new since 2002 and it continues to evolve to meet changing industry needs.

Program description

Work in this area includes:

- industry information gathered and synthesized for primary producers;
- support for business arrangements including research into unique structures identified for an evolving industry;
- cost-benefit analysis of new ventures to determine if they will work at an individual farm level and strategies on how to manage the risks around new ventures; and
- development of new risk management tools and strategies such as CropChoices software and the Risk Management Matrix.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

Available on an ongoing basis with some areas being moved to other agencies to allow staff time to develop and deliver in new areas.

Who should apply for the program?

The target group for these programs are agribusiness managers who are interested in and capable of:

- growing their businesses;
- taking advantage of new opportunities;
- being more competitive; and
- working in strategic alliances.

What funding is available?

This area is supported by BMIB and the Economics Unit. The BMIB has the equivalent of six full-time staff working in this area as well as contributing contract dollars. The Economics Unit has the equivalent of three full-time staff working in this area. The value of support in this area in 2004–05 and beyond is at least $1 000 000.

Who will deliver the service?

BMIB is primarily responsible for delivery. Depending on the project, other agencies become involved, such as Agriculture Financial Services Corporation (AFSC).

Whom do I contact for more information?

Branch Head
Tel: 403 556-4213
Business Risk Management Specialist
BMIB, AAFRD
909 Irricana Rd. N.E.
Airdrie, AB T4A 2G6
Tel: 403 948-8524

Renewal Programs Delivery

What is the program objective?

The program will provide technical expertise to assist in delivering of the Canadian Farm Business Advisory Service programs in Saskatchewan.

What are the expected results of the program?

Through providing technical resources to Renewal Programs Delivery, they will:

- assist farmers to increase their profitability;
- assist farmers to make choices about sources of income;
- assist farmers to meet market and consumer demands respecting food safety and food quality and environmentally-responsible production;
- assist farmers to capture opportunities from science and innovation.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

Existing Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food (SAF) resources were transitioned to provide support for delivering the national Agricultural Policy Framework, Renewal Programs in Saskatchewan.

Program description

The program provides the expertise needed to operate and develop the national programs in Saskatchewan. SAF renewal specialists are the point of first contact for farmers interested in accessing the following national programs in Saskatchewan.

I. **Canadian Farm Business Advisory Service** (launched on October 1, 2004) including the following programs:

1) Farm Business Assessment: provides the farmer with a comprehensive financial profile, a statement of assets, liabilities, income and expenses, a farm business ratio analysis and an action plan that will assess options for increasing profitability.

2) Specialized Business Planning Services: provides the farmer or groups of farmers with comprehensive business planning support for diversification, marketing, human resources, expansion, risk management or succession.

3) Planning and Assessment for Value-Added Enterprises: provides the farmer or groups of farmers with feasibility assessments and business planning for business ventures that add value to a primary agricultural product.

II. **The Canadian Agricultural Skills Service** provides farmers and their spouses with planning and financial support for education, training and skills development related to their future plans.

Renewal specialists will support the regional organisation, delivery and quality control for services delivered to the Saskatchewan farm community under these national programs.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The Canadian Farm Business Advisory Service was launched on October 1, 2004.

The Canadian Agricultural Skills Service was launched in Saskatchewan in May 2005.

Who should apply for the program?

All commercial (more than $10 000 in farm sales) and beginning (less than $10 000 in farm sales and less than 6 years of farming experience with the potential to generate over $10 000 in farm sales) farmers in Canada.

What funding is available?

$0.7 million in fiscal year 2004–05.

Funding is provided to the Agri-Business Development Branch of SAF to provide services described.

Who will deliver the service?

Specialists in the Agri-Business Development Branch of SAF.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Manager, Renewal Programs
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food
Room 329, 3085 Albert St.
Regina, SK S4S 0B1
Tel: 306 787-4323
E-mail: lstavness@agr.gov.sk.ca

Rural Renewal Action Planning Program

What is the program objective?

The Rural Renewal Action Planning Program is to provide funding for technical expertise and for industry partnership activities to develop competitive business environment, sustainable and effective rural infrastructure and strong and healthy rural communities in Saskatchewan.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to result in:

- increased economic growth in rural Saskatchewan; and
- sustainable diversified agricultural and rural economy.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

The program will contribute to developing rural policy and programs through the Rural Issues Office and the Action Committee on the Rural Economy.

The Rural Issues Office manages a cross-government initiative tasked with developing policies and programs that contribute to sustainability in rural Saskatchewan. Through the development and implementation of Saskatchewan's Rural Strategy, the three goals of competitive business environment, sustainable and effective rural infrastructure and strong and healthy rural communities will be realized.

The office also supports the activities of the Action Committee on the Rural Economy (ACRE) as it engages in dialogue and policy development targeted at furthering rural and agricultural growth and developing strong communities.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This program is currently available.

Who should apply for the program?

Not applicable.

What funding is available?

$0.6 million in fiscal year 2003–04.

$0.6 million in fiscal year 2004–05.

Funds are provided to Rural Issues Office of Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food to deliver services described.

Who will deliver the service?

Rural Issues Office, Government of Saskatchewan Action Committee on the Rural Economy (ACRE).

Whom do I contact for more information?

Director, Policy and Planning
Saskatchewan Rural Development
Room 101, 3085 Albert St.
Regina, SK S4S 0B1
E-mail: asyhlonyk@agr.gov.sk.ca

Rural Health Program

What is the program objective?

The Rural Health Program is to provide funding to assist in the coordination of agricultural occupational health and safety research, injury surveillance, program development and extension delivery to the agricultural industry by providing financial support to the Institute of Agricultural and Environmental Health (I.ARE.H).

I.ARE.H delivers service, education, prevention and research activities in four competencies:

1) Agricultural: the Centre for Agricultural Medicine undertakes research and health promotion specific to farmers, farm families and agricultural workers in areas that include injury prevention and health effects of dust, chemicals and other hazards.
2) Rural: enhances the health of rural and remote communities, through acute and chronic health care, emergency services, communications and related issues.
3) Environmental: preserves clean air and water through research in pesticide exposure, ecosystem health and risk assessment.
4) Occupational Health: undertakes research and health promotion aimed at farm, forestry and other rural based employment.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to result in:

- reduced incidence of agricultural injuries and deaths;
- healthier rural population.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

The research and extension services undertaken by I.ARE.H are targeted at reducing rural and agricultural occupational health issues. Key elements focus on air quality, food and water quality, occupational health and rural health.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This program is currently available.

Who should apply for the program?

Not applicable.

What funding is available?

$0.1 million in fiscal year 2003–04.

$0.1 million in fiscal year 2004–05.

Funds are provided to University of Saskatchewan's I.ARE.H.

Who will deliver the service?

I.ARE.H.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Director, Policy and Planning
Saskatchewan Rural Development
Room 101, 3085 Albert St.
Regina, SK S4S 0B1
E-mail: asyhlonyk@agr.gov.sk.ca

Crop and Livestock Diversification Program

What is the program objective?

The objective of the Crop and Livestock Diversification Program is to enhance the adoption of crop and livestock production practices to capture diversification and value-added opportunities in Manitoba. The program achieves that through financing the purchase of equipment for use by regional diversification centres.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to:

- make available relevant technologies and equipment to support crop and livestock diversification programming;
- increase value-added activities in Manitoba;
- increase partnerships and more projects demonstrating diversification and value-added opportunities for farmers; and
- continue ability to conduct extension projects across Manitoba.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

The program supports of regionally based crop diversification centres as well as value-added and diversification projects.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Producers, agriculture industry, agribusinesses and associations are eligible to apply.

What funding is available?

$4.597 million over 3 years.

Who will deliver the service?

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) staff.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Transition Programs Lead
MAFRI
401 York Ave. Room 811
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0P8
Tel: 204 945-3979
E-mail: gfearn@gov.mb.ca

Food Development Centre

What is the program objective?

Through this program, the province of Manitoba supports the Food Development Centre's activities and programming that provide leadership for the creation, expansion and diversification of the agri-food industry through its industry network and its expertise in food processing.

What are the expected results of the program?

Expected results of the program include:

- jobs created in the agri-food sector;
- new food products and food processing services developed;
- companies in the agri-food sector created or expanded;
- companies assisted through in-plant troubleshooting; and
- training and technical advice provided to companies and individuals.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

Funding allows the Food Development Centre (FDC) to continue to offer its existing programs and services.

Program description

The Food Development Centre provides services to the food, beverage and feed industries. The program funding will assist the centre to focus on product and process development, business development, training and library and technical information services.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

All stakeholders in Manitoba's and Canada's agri-food sector are eligible to use the services of the Food Development Centre. That includes small- and medium-size enterprises, family businesses and entrepreneurs, agricultural producers and large companies.

What funding is available?

FDC receives part of its operating resources from Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) to provide core services that assist the Manitoba's agri-food sector improve diversification and to increase value-added activities in the agri-food sector. FDC clients can access further funding for more in-depth, detailed studies from sources such as Manitoba Agri-Ventures Initiatives, National Research Council-Industrial Research Assistance Program, Agri-Food Research and Development Initiative and Manitoba Rural Adaptation Council.

Who will deliver the service?

Food Development Centre.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Lead, Science and Innovation
MAFRI
204 – 545 University Crescent
Winnipeg, MB R3T 5S6
Tel: 204 945-1341
E-mail: tsmyrl@gov.mb.ca

Food Development Centre — Equipment

What is the program objective?

The Food Development Centre (FDC) provides leadership in the creation, expansion and diversification of the agri-food industry through its industry network and its expertise in food processing. The purpose of the FDC program is to ensure that specialized processing equipment and associated services are available to smaller agri-food entrepreneurs in Manitoba.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to:

- make available specialized processing equipment and associated services for smaller agri-food entrepreneurs;
- create 50, 75 and 90 jobs within the agri-food sector during 2004–05, 2005–06 and 2006–07, respectively; and
- contribute through these jobs $19 810 to the provincial Gross Domestic Product and $1 837 to provincial tax revenues.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

FDC is a program that is being enhanced through the Transition component of the APF agreement. FDC is a Special Operating Agency of Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI), a department of the Government of Manitoba.

Program description

By making this equipment available, FDC will provide enhanced services that address the main development and processing technological needs in oilseeds, fruit and vegetables and meat commodities. This technology will enable the centre to deliver the following services to its clients:

- product development;
- process development;
- nutritional;
- regulatory affairs and hazard analysis critical control points;
- information services;
- technology transfer; and
- educational services.

These service address APF priorities of Food Safety and Quality, Renewal, Environment and Science and Innovation.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

FDC is a well-established research and development centre that is currently operational. The enhancements provided by this program will be available to its clients in the fall of 2004.

Who should apply for the program?

All stakeholders in Manitoba's agri-food continuum are eligible to apply including small- and medium-size enterprises, family businesses and entrepreneurs, agricultural producers and large companies.

What funding is available?

$2.935 million is available provincially until March 31, 2006.

Who will deliver the service?

FDC staff works in concert with all levels of government, industry and academia to ensure a coordinated service to clientele.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Transition Programs Lead
MAFRI
401 York Ave. Room 811
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0P8
Tel: 204 945-3979
E-mail: gfearn@gov.mb.ca

Managing Risk Education Program

What is the program objective?

The objective of the program is to enhance the knowledge of Manitoba producers regarding risk management strategies and tools.

What are the expected results of the program?

Expected results of the program include:

- producers gain increased understanding of risk;
- financial and marketing risk strategies adopted; and
- limited business exposure to unacceptable levels of risk.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

The program is a new federal–provincial and territorial program.

Program description

The program, under the guidance of a steering committee composed of representatives from Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), will deliver events and resources to assist producers in assessing business risk on a variety of situations.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program will begin in the fall of 2004.

Who should apply for the program?

MAFRI staff in consultation with producer clients and producer groups should apply.

What funding is available?

$0.375 million in-kind provincial contribution is available over 5 years.

Who will deliver the service?

MAFRI staff will organize and deliver the events in consultation with industry experts.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Lead, Renewal Chapter
MAFRI
825 – 405 Broadway Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R3C 3L6
Tel: 204 945-3735
E-mail: dginerab@gov.mb.ca

Manitoba Agri-Ventures Initiatives (MAVI)

What is the program objective?

The Manitoba Agri-Venture Initiatives (MAVI) Program provides business planning and market development support for agriculture and agri-food industry to increase value-added and diversification activity in Manitoba.

What are the expected results of the program?

The expected results of the program include:

- competitive business intelligence on emerging opportunities for industry development and business ventures gathered;
- new uses for agricultural products developed; and
- aids in developing new markets for agricultural and agri-food commodities, and food production in Manitoba.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

MAVI is an existing program.

Program description

Financial assistance is available for developing information for business and marketing plans, feasibility studies, new product development, new process development and market development. Government contribution is available on a cost-shared basis. The maximum available funding is $5 000 for individual ventures and $10 000 for organized commodity-based groups. Non-financial technical assistance is also provided.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Manitoba agricultural producers and farm families, agricultural entrepreneurs, agri-business, suppliers and processors of agricultural products, provincial agricultural and commodity organizations.

What funding is available?

$1.75 million per year over 5 years.

Who will deliver the service?

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) staff will work with project proponents in developing new initiatives.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Lead, Renewal Chapter
MAFRI
825 – 405 Broadway Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R3C 3L6
Tel: 204 945-3735
E-mail: dginerab@gov.mb.ca

Project 2000 — Mentoring and Your Future In Farming

What is the program objective?

The objective of the program is to assist beginning and young producers in managing viable farm operations in Manitoba.

What are the expected results of the program?

Young and beginning farmers will create and implement farm development and business strategies to enhance the long-term sustainability of their farm operations.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing programming that supports the current and future needs of young producers and rural communities in Manitoba.

Program description

Project 2000 currently has two program components:

1) The Bridging Generations program of Manitoba Agriculture Credit Corporation (MACC) provides alternative financing options for young producers and family members to assist in the transfer of the family farm. In addition, an interest rate incentive is offered to young farmers to take training or credits to enhance their farm management skills.
2) A Mentoring component is also offered to young producers interested in a mentoring experience with an established producer to develop their knowledge and business contacts.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This is an ongoing program.

Who should apply for the program?

Individual producers between the ages of 18 and 39 farm-family persons who wish to farm.

What funding is available?

$0.425 million as a provincial matching contribution is available over the 5-year Canada–Manitoba Implementation Agreement.

Who will deliver the service?

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) and MACC staff will work with producers and educational institutions to deliver, develop and support the program.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Lead, Renewal Chapter
MAFRI
825 – 405 Broadway Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R3C 3L6
Tel: 204 945-3735
E-mail: dginerab@gov.mb.ca

Rural Extension Service — Farm Management

What is the program objective?

The objective of the program is to build and strengthen producers management skills by providing resources and training to producers on financial and risk management, estate planning, and available agricultural assistance programs.

What are the expected results of the program?

Increased use by producer and industry of Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) farm management resources and programs maximizes business net income for the benefit of industry and rural communities in Manitoba.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program description

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives' (MAFRI) farm management specialists located in 12 rural communities provide farm management extension services through publications, electronic medium, seminars, training courses, software development, and network of Strategic partners and resource materials. On-farm consultations are also provided. The program is responsive to the changing needs of producers, industry an drural communities in Manitoba.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This is an on-going.

Who should apply for the program?

Individual producers, producer groups, communities, and industry are eligible to apply for the program.

What funding is available?

$5.625 million in-kind provincial matching contribution is available over five-years.

Who will deliver the service?

MAFRI staff will work with producers, communities, and industry to develop and support the extension program.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Lead, Renewal Chapter
MAFRI
825 – 405 Broadway Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R3C 3L6
Tel: 204 945-3735
E-mail: dginerab@gov.mb.ca

Rural Extension Service – Home Economics

What is the program objective?

The objective of the program is to enhance the decision-making skills and knowledge of farm and rural clients in the areas of leadership development, farm finance, food safety and quality, family farm businesses and value-added and diversifying businesses in Manitoba.

What are the expected results of the program?

This program is expected to increase understanding and adoption of leadership and business skills that will lead to stable and prosperous farm families and rural communities.

Is the program a new existing or transition program?

Rural Extension Service—Home Economics is an existing program that responds to change and future needs of farm families and rural communities.

Program description

Home Economists work with farm families in leadership development, food safety and quality, farm family budgeting and building businesses that help diversify and add value to the family income. Consultations, workshops and resources are provided in succession planning, family communications, time management, setting goals, food processing, agri-tourism and marketing.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Manitoba farm and rural families and rural organizations.

What funding is available?

$2.45 million in-kind provincial matching contribution is available over 5 years.

Who will deliver the service?

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) staff will work directly with farm and rural families and rural organizations.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Lead, Renewal Chapter
MAFRI
825 – 405 Broadway Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R3C 3L6
Tel: 204 945-3735
E-mail: dginerab@gov.mb.ca

Rural Extension Service – Agriculture Representatives

What is the program objective?

The objective of the program is to provide producers with technical information and support on production, management and marketing of agricultural commodities, including a referral service to programs and services offered by government or private-sector specialists.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to accelerate adoption of leading-edge production, management and marketing practices to increase profitability of farms and their capacity to adapt to changing conditions and to respond to development opportunities.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

Rural Extension Service — Agricultural Representatives is an existing program.

Program description

Agricultural Representatives work with farm groups, producers, researchers, and the industry to develop programs to encourage the adoption of new agricultural practices and products. This will lead to increased production, increased market share and returns, adoption of environmentally sound production practices, and greater resiliency in the industry to adapt to changing environments and markets.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This is an ongoing program.

Who should apply for the program?

Manitoba farmers.

What funding is available?

$5.275 million in-kind provincial matching contribution over 5 years.

Who will deliver the service?

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) will work with producers, researchers and industry to develop and support the extension program.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Lead, Renewal Chapter
MAFRI
825 – 405 Broadway Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R3C 3L6
Tel: 204 945-3735
E-mail: dginerab@gov.mb.ca

Rural Extension Service – Crop and Livestock Diversification

What is the objective of the program?

The objective of the program is to provide leadership and support to farmers, agri-businesses and entrepreneurs to diversify and add value to agriculture products in Manitoba in response to local and international market opportunities.

What are the expected results of the program?

Manitoba farmers and communities are able to identify, adapt, develop and produce products to meet changing market opportunities.

Is the program a new existing or transition program?

This is an existing programming that responds to the change and future needs of producers, industry and rural communities in Manitoba.

Program description

The program identifies, develops and strengthens new or expanding markets for Manitoba products by bringing information and people together. That will help initiate, facilitate and support projects and businesses to diversify crop and livestock production, develop new products and process agricultural commodities.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This is an ongoing program.

Who should apply for the program?

Manitoba farmers, agri-businesses and entrepreneurs.

What funding is available?

$4.063 million in-kind provincial matching contribution over 5 years.

Who will deliver the service?

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) staff will work with producers, communities and industry to develop and support the crop and livestock diversification extension program.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Lead, Renewal Chapter
MAFRI
825 – 405 Broadway Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R3C 3L6
Tel: 204 945-3735
E-mail: dginerab@gov.mb.ca

Agricultural Management Institute (AMI)

What is the program objective?

Agricultural Management Institute (AMI) has the following objectives:

- To raise the profile and adoption of business management best practices in the Ontario agriculture industry;
- To provide Ontario farmers and their advisors with the business management tools, products, information, resources and training they need to enhance decision-making and farm profitability; and
- To develop and extend business management tools, products, information and resources through partnerships with producer groups, research institutions and the financial services sector.

What are the expected results of the program?

Enhanced information and tools for business management decision-making.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

AMI provides funding to develop business management tools, products, information, resources and training for farm families, farm managers and farm business advisors.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program ends March 31, 2008.

Who should apply for the program?

Individual and/or agricultural organizations, agencies, associations, community groups, institutions, universities, colleges, groups, or companies with a head office in Ontario may be part of or lead a project provided the government funding sought will clearly fill a public good. Alliances and partnerships are encouraged, but not required.

What funding is available?

Funding is available for projects which address one or more of the following program areas:

- Benchmarking and Business Management Best Practices
- Business Risk Management
- Business Succession Planning and New Entrants
- Human Resources Development and Training
- Innovation and Market Opportunities

Approved funding amounts for each project will be determined by an Industry Advisory Panel based on the project proposal and budget which must be submitted in advance of any expenditures being incurred. Funding may be up to 100 per cent of the total cost of a project. However, preference will be given to projects where cost shared support is provided by industry proponents.

Who will deliver the service?

Final administrative details are still being finalized.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Manager, Business and Organizational Management
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food
1 Stone Road West, 3rd Floor NE
Guelph, ON NIG 4Y2
Tel: 519 826-3285
Fax: 519 826-3254
E-mail: clarence.haverson@omaf.gov.on.ca

Support Program For Quebec's Sectoral Panels

What are the objectives of the program?

- To enable sectoral panels to acquire their independence, notably by fostering the acquisition of legal status and supporting their operations.
- To enable sectoral panels and sectoral cooperation structures to carry out an analysis of their sector and to develop a strategic plan for development.
- To support joint projects stemming from strategic planning, fostering the improved effectiveness and profitability of farmers and the enhanced competitiveness of the agri-food sector concerned.

What are the expected results of the program?

Component I, for the agri-food sector:

- Incorporation of the sectoral panel
- Completion of an analysis
- Draft of a strategic plan for development

Component II, for farm and agri-food businesses:

- Better knowledge of the socio-economic environment
- Better planning to facilitate decision making
- Increased revenue and profitability of farm and agri-food businesses through access to new economic possibilities
- Enhanced competitive capacity and market performance of the agri-food industry

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

For several years, the Quebec Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAPAQ) has provided a support program to its various cooperative structures. The Support Program for Quebec's Sectoral Panels is similar to the program provided by MAPAQ.

Program description

There are two components to the program: the objectives and the expected results are described above.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

Component I took effect on April 1, 2003, and will end on March 31, 2008.

Component II will come into effect with the signing of the collateral agreement and will end on March 31, 2008. However, the final date for submitting projects is January 17, 2008.

Who should apply for the program?

Component I:

To establish legal status and operationalize activities:

- Sectoral panels which are recognized by the Agri-Food Panel and are legally constituted.

To complete an analysis and develop a strategic plan:

- Sectoral panels and sectoral cooperation structures recognized by the Agri-Food Panel.

Component II:

Projects meeting the objectives:

- Sectoral panels recognized by the Agri-Food Panel.
- Sectoral cooperation structures recognized by the Agri-Food Panel.
- Regional agri-food cooperation entities recognized by the Regional Branch of MAPAQ.

What funding is available?

Canada will not make any contribution under Component I of this program. Quebec will be the sole contributor to this component.

Financial contributions by the two levels of government to Component II of this program are set out in the collateral agreement on Renewal programs.

Total funds available are $5 million, shared equally between the two governments.

Who will deliver the program?

MAPAQ is responsible for delivering the program.

For more information:

Projects must be submitted to MAPAQ using the applicable form.

The form is available at:

- the regional branches of either MAPAQ or Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- MAPAQ's *Transformation Alimentaire Québec*, in Quebec City.

Agricultural Consultants Support Program

What are the program objectives?

The program objectives are to:

- improve the consultation capacity of agricultural consultants in order to increase farm profitability and competitiveness.
- support the development of guidance, information and networking tools that reflect agricultural consultants' needs.
- promote the dissemination of the latest technical and economic information to support agricultural consultants in their work.

What are the expected results of the program?

The development, organization, promotion and dissemination of information activities and seminars for agricultural consultants. The development of guidance, information, analysis and networking tools or the enhancement or adoption of an existing tool for agricultural consultants.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

Tendering will take place for projects stemming from activities identified as priorities by the support committee for consultants. Activities will be determined from a work plan developed by the support committee for consultants, which will be approved by the federal and Quebec governments.

Financial assistance could be up to 100 per cent of total eligible costs, up to a maximum of $200 000 per project.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program takes effect upon the signature of the collateral agreement and concludes on March 31, 2008.

Who should apply for the program?

Consultant organizations providing farm business advisory services and/or any other agricultural consultant support organization.

What funds are available?

The federal government is responsible for all funding from this component.

Total available funding is $4 million.

Who will deliver the service?

The delivery agent is the Quebec department of agriculture, fisheries and food (MAPAQ).

Whom do I contact for more information?

Proposals must be submitted to MAPAQ. Coordinates for proposals will be included in the calls to tender documents.

For further information, contact MAPAQ or Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada regional offices.

New Brunswick Beginning Farmer Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of the New Brunswick Beginning Farmer Initiative is to assist individuals who propose to establish commercial agriculture enterprises to develop and acquire the planning, training and financial protection to enter the industry.

What are the expected results of the program?

It is expected that:

- beginning farmers will have comprehensive business plans to guide them in establishing and operating their enterprises and to assist them in acquiring long-term credit;
- beginning farmers will have completed a skills assessment and will have Individual Learning Plans developed to acquire training to meet any deficiencies identified;
- beginning farmers will be eligible to receive assistance in acquiring the identified training; and
- on establishing their enterprises, beginning farmers will have Production Margin coverage through the Canadian Agriculture Income Stabilization (CAIS) program.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

The Initiative will assist potential beginning farmers to evaluate their ideas, develop viable business plans, develop and implement individual training plans and obtain Production Margin coverage for their enterprises. This should assist individuals to establish and operate viable primary agriculture enterprises.

When will the program be available, end, transition?

The program will be available until March 31, 2008.

Who should apply for the program?

Beginning farmers who are interested in entering the primary agriculture industry should apply for the program.

What funding is available?

Individual farmers are eligible for up to 50 per cent of their cost of developing of comprehensive business plans to a maximum of $4 000.

Beginning farmers are eligible for skills assessment and development of an individual learning plan through the federal Canadian Agriculture Skills Services (CASS) program and up to 50 per cent of the cost of acquiring the training identified in the individual learning plan to a maximum of $4 000.

Once a beginning farmer has established an operation, he or she would be eligible for assistance by enrolling in the CAIS program to protect the Production Margin. This assistance would be the initial one-third requirement up to a maximum of $15 000.

Who will deliver the service?

The Initiative will be delivered through the Business Risk Management Branch of the New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Further information and application forms are available from Development Officers in all regions of the province as well as from the Business Risk Management Branch in Fredericton.

NB Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture
P. O. Box 5305
Sussex, NB E4E 7H7
Tel: 506 432-2150
E-mail: philip.parlee@gnb.ca

New Brunswick Agricultural Leadership Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of the New Brunswick Agricultural Leadership Initiative is to support activities that encourage renewal of the agriculture sector in New Brunswick.

What are the expected results of the program?

Participants in the program will acquire the skills, knowledge broad perspective and positive attitude to become effective progressive leaders for all sectors of New Brunswick agriculture.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

The initiative will provide a contribution toward activities of the Atlantic Agricultural Leadership Program.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The initiative will be available from 2003–04 until 2005–06.

Who should apply for the program?

Funding under this initiative is available to the Atlantic Agricultural Leadership Program Inc.

What funding is available?

The total budget for this initiative is $100 000.

Who will deliver the service?

The initiative will be delivered through the Business Risk Management Branch of the New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Further information is available from:
The Administrator, APF Agreement
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture
P. O. Box 6000
Fredericton, NB E3B 5H1.

Canada–Nova Scotia Promotion and Awareness

What is the program objective?

The purpose of this program is to facilitate the promotion and awareness of risk management programs in Nova Scotia.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to result in increased:

- industry awareness of the risk management initiatives; and
- participation by industry in risk management.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

Promotion and Awareness is an existing program within the transition period of the Canada–Nova Scotia Implementation Agreement.

Program description

The program focuses on two areas:

1) education and training (e.g. provincial and accounting staff); and
2) promotion of agricultural risk management programs available to Nova Scotia's producers.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is available on an annual basis, subject to approval of provincial budget. The program is available at present and will be reviewed prior to March 31, 2006 for its eligibility to continue to the end of the Agricultural Policy Framework, March 31, 2008.

Who should apply for the program?

Specific activities under this initiative may be completed through both external contracts or through internal projects.

What funding is available?

Funding will depend on the project scope.

Who will deliver the service?

The Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (NSDAF) will deliver the program through its Programs and Business Risk Management Division.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Programs and Business Risk Management Division
NSDAF
176 College Road, PO Box 550
Tel: 902 893-6510 or (toll-free) 1 866 844-4276
Fax: 902 893-7579
E-mail: prm@gov.ns.ca
Website: www.gov.ns.ca/nsaf/prm

Nova Scotia New Opportunities Business Development and Investment Initiative

What is the program objective?

The initiative is to provide business development and economic analysis that support strategic industry development and competitiveness of agri-food businesses in Nova Scotia.

Specifically, the objectives are:

- to assist in identifying and assessing new business opportunities;
- to provide business research and information required for risk assessment of new business development opportunities;
- to provide information that will enhance potential investors' ability to make sound business decision related to new investment opportunities; and
- to help businesses to explore and develop investment opportunities.

What are the expected results of the program?

The expected results are:

- strategic industry development and competitiveness of agri-food businesses;
- increased number and uptake of new opportunities for agri-food industry;
- enhanced competitive analysis and identification of relevant management and other business development issues;
- development of management strategies to address risk factors related to business development opportunities; and
- enhanced economic analysis of industry development opportunities for the Province to support the identification of viable business development opportunities for provincial businesses.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

The initiative has four components:

1) **Part A: Economic Analysis** support for the identification of viable business development opportunities for Nova Scotia businesses in the agri-food sector through, economic research supporting the identification of new opportunities; economic analysis and planning of new investment opportunities; and investigative travel to view potential new investment opportunities or to attract potential investors.
2) **Part B: Competitive Analysis** of the Nova Scotia agri-food sector, including the identification of relevant management and other business development issues. Activities include: economic analysis of competitiveness issues related to capturing new opportunities; and, analysis of risk factors and other management issues that will influence competitive success of new investment opportunities.
3) **Part C: Management Strategies** to address risk management factors related to business development opportunities. Activities include business assessment of investment opportunities, feasibility studies, alliance building, and investment and financing options.
4) **Part D: Support to Businesses** designed to improve the success of business strategies to capture new opportunities. Activities include: communicating new opportunities, facilitating and encouraging business services that encourage new investment; the development and provision of resource tools and materials; and the design of tactics and strategies to enhance industry uptake.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program will be available in May 2004 and ends on March 31, 2008.

Who should apply for the program?

Specific activities under this initiative may be completed through both external contracts or through internal projects initiated by the Industry Development and Business Services Branch. Applicants who develop a Request For Proposal (RFP) format or a partnership agreement will be considered.

What funding is available?

Funding will depend on the project scope.

Who will deliver the service?

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and Aquaculture will deliver the program through its Business Development and Economics Division.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Business Management and Economic Development Division
Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and Aquaculture
P.O. Box 550
Truro, NS B2N 5E3
E-mail: BME@gov.ns.ca

Future Farmer Program

What is the program objective?

The objective of this program is to promote the entry of new farmers to the industry and improve the probability of new entrants establishing profitable and sustainable farm businesses.

What are the expected results of the program?

The Future Farmer Program is aimed at providing the kinds of resources and services required by the next generation of farmers. The needs will vary according to individual circumstances and plans. The program will also be supported by existing programs and services, such as succession planning.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new program.

Program description

Government and industry have recognized that more must be done to attract the next generation of farmers. The average age of farmers in P.E.I. is upwards of 49 years, and steps must be taken to ensure the continuation of a dynamic and growing industry in the province.

There is also recognition that new farmers need access to capital. The average capital value of farms in the province is now more than $400 000, and new entrants must be supported in building their equity. There are five components of the program:

- skills assessment and learning plan
- business advisory service
- risk management
- interest rebate
- extension assistance.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is currently available.

Who should apply for the program?

An eligible applicant:

- must be at least 18 years of age;
- must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant;
- must be a resident of Prince Edward Island;
- may be an individual or a member of a Corporation, Partnership or Co-operative;
- must not have filed farming income on an income tax return with more than a total of $40,000 in gross income in 1997 and all prior years.

In the case of corporations or partnerships, the farm's gross sales will be attributed to the applicant to determine that there was no more than a total of $40,000 in gross farm income in 1997 and all prior years.

What funding is available?

The Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture will provide funding to the applicant's Canadian Agricultural Income Support (CAIS) account, to cover the minimum deposit (for the first year of eligibility only) for the disaster portion of the account, up to a reference margin of $100 000, for a maximum contribution of $4 667.

The Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture will provide funding to reduce interest costs for a 5-year period on operating capital and / or term capital loans acquired by the applicant from his/her financial institution on loan amounts totalling up to $250 000.

Training funding is available for 75 per cent of tuition or similar expenses to a maximum of $200 per pre-approved training event. The maximum funding available is $800 over the 5-year program term.

Who will deliver the service?

P.E.I. Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture.

Whom do I contact for more information?

The District Agricultural Staff in O'Leary, Summerside, Charlottetown, or Montague or:
Future Farmer Program
Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture
P.O. Box 1500
Montague, PE C0A 1R0
Tel: 902 838-0626
Fax: 902 838-0624
E-mail: ceyounie@gov.pe.ca

FarmNet

What is the program objective?

The objective of FarmNet is to provide information, ideas and advice to producers and the general public on agricultural issues and trends. One of its sub-objectives is to stimulate discussion and dialogue. The program also aims to encourage greater utilization of web-based sources of information.

What are the expected results of the program?

The expected program results are:

- increased understanding and awareness by industry and the public of agricultural issues and events in Prince Edward Island; and
- dialogue and discussions stimulated through other information sources such as the internet.

Is the program new, existing or transition program?

This is an existing program.

Program Description

FarmNet is a weekly newspaper column prepared by the Communications Section of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture. It is published in Prince Edward Island's largest daily newspaper. Each weekly article aims to be topical, lively and informative, and to stimulate more interest in the issue. Each article ends with a web-based source for further information.

When will the program be available?

FarmNet is ongoing.

Who will deliver the program?

Communications Section, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Senior Policy Coordinator
11 Kent St.
PO Box 2000
Charlottetown, PE
C1A 7N8
Tel: 902 368-4888
Fax: 902 368-4857
E-mail: wemackinnon@gov.pe.ca

Agri-Foods Business Development Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of this program is to provide assistance for preparing business plans and feasibility studies to assess the financial strength of agri-businesses, capture new market opportunities, and assess opportunities in growth, diversification and secondary processing in Newfoundland and Labrador.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to result in completion of business plans, marketing plans and feasibility studies.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an active program.

Program description

This initiative provides support for completion of business plans, marketing plans, feasibility studies, cost of production studies and agriculture business profiles.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Agricultural producers, processors, partnerships, corporations, cooperatives, governments and not-for-profit organizations.

What funding is available?

Assistance may be provided up to 50 per cent of actual costs for individual agricultural producers, processors, partnerships, or corporations. Up to 75 per cent of actual costs for cooperatives or farm groups representing three or more agribusinesses; and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and not-for-profit organizations could be provided. Funding for business and marketing plans will be limited to 50 per cent of costs to a maximum of $8 000 per applicant. Farmers must first apply through the Canadian Farm Business Advisory Services (CFBAS) before being eligible for the Agri-foods Business Development Initiative.

Who will deliver the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Diversification Initiatives

What is the program objective?

The objective of this program is to provide assistance to producers and industry stakeholders to diversify into new crops, fruit, livestock and other sectors in Newfoundland and Labrador.

What are the expected results of the program?

The program is expected to result in increased diversification of established farming operations province-wide.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an active program.

Program description

The program supports activities that diversify an agribusiness and introduce new local agri-foods products.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Agricultural producers, processors, partnerships, corporations, cooperatives, governments and not-for-profit organizations.

What funding is available?

Assistance may be provided up to 50 per cent of actual costs for individual agricultural producers, processors, partnerships, or corporations; up to 75 per cent of actual costs for cooperatives or farm groups representing three or more agribusinesses; and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and not-for-profit organizations.

Who will deliver the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Farm Succession Planning Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of the Farm Succession Planning Initiative is to provide financial assistance for the development of individual farm succession plans, access to public and private advisory services, delivery of farm succession training opportunities and the development and distribution of farm succession planning resources in Newfoundland and Labrador.

What are the expected results of the program?

The initiative is expected to results in farm succession plans developed and implemented.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an active program.

Program description

The initiative supports the development of farm succession plans through the development and distribution of farm succession planning resources and educational material.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Agricultural producers, partnerships, corporations, cooperatives, governments and not-for-profit organizations.

What funding is available?

Assistance may be provided up to 50 per cent of actual costs to a maximum of $5 000 for farm succession plans, and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and not-for-profit organizations to develop and deliver farm succession planning resources and services. May include, but not limited to, consultant fees, training costs and resource materials.

Who will deliver the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Human Resource Development Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of the Human Resource Development Initiative is to provide learning opportunities and resources for farm managers, farm families, farm workers and service providers in Newfoundland and Labrador to enhance their management skills and knowledge required to evaluate new business opportunities. This will be achieved through workshops, seminars, conferences and travel and exchange.

What are the expected results of the program?

This initiative will provide:

- workshops and seminars covering topics such as technical training, on-farm safety, food quality, environmental issues, innovation and renewal; and
- workshops and seminars evaluated through surveys and participation.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an active program.

Program description

The initiative provides courses, seminars, workshops, travel and exchanges and any other activity that will develop the human resource capabilities of the agri-foods industry. In addition, activities that provide enhanced access to agricultural information and the development of educational resources are also eligible, including communications tools such as the Province's Agrifoods Website and newsletters, training needs assessments, and educational support. This initiative will complement the Canadian Agricultural Skills Services.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

This program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Agricultural producers, processors, partnerships, corporations, cooperatives, governments and not-for-profit organizations.

What funding is available?

Assistance may be provided up to 50 per cent of actual costs for individual agricultural producers, processors, partnerships or corporations. Up to 75 per cent of actual costs for cooperatives or farm groups representing three or more agribusinesses and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and not-for-profit organizations could be provided.

Who will deliver the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

New Entrants Development Initiative

What is the program objective?

The objective of this initiative is to provide information and services specifically designed to encourage new entrants in agriculture in Newfoundland and Labrador.

What are the expected results of the program?

The expected results of the initiative are:

- new entrants into agriculture that are informed and successful; and
- youth agricultural programs established province-wide.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is an active program.

Program description

The initiative provides support for activities targeting youth: Agriculture in the Classroom; agricultural youth development and leadership programs such as the provincial 4-H Program. Other activities that encourage new entrants to the agriculture industry also receive support.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

The program is ongoing.

Who should apply for the program?

Individuals who meet the definition of new entrant under this initiative; individuals or groups who wish to establish youth agricultural programs such as Agriculture in the Classroom and 4-H activities; governments and not-for-profit organizations.

What funding is available?

Assistance may be provided up to 50 per cent of actual costs for individual agricultural producers, processors, partnerships, or corporations; up to 75 per cent of actual costs for cooperatives or farm groups representing three or more agribusinesses; and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and not-for-profit organizations.

Who will deliver the service?

Department of Natural Resources.

Whom do I contact for more information?

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2647
E-mail: lynnkendall@gov.nl.ca

Program Co-ordinator
Tel: 709 637-2096
E-mail: louisfequet@gov.nl.ca

Canada–Yukon Renewal Programs

Renewal programs in the Yukon are designed to provide farmers with skills, knowledge and tools to help them succeed in farming. Among the services provided are access to advice on increasing profitability through new business opportunities and value-added activities, and opportunities to help them improve farm family income and/or making informed choices about sources of income.

There are six Renewal programs in the Yukon:

- Human Resource Development Program
- New Entrants Development Program
- Market Development Program
- Agriculture Development Program
- Diversification and Value-added Program
- Land Enhancement Program

What are the programs' objectives?

Human Resource Development: Provides learning and resource opportunities (course, seminars, workshops and travel and exchange) to enhance management abilities and improve skills and knowledge required to evaluate new business opportunities.

New Entrants Development Program: Provides opportunities for new farmers to enter into agricultural internship programs or have access to industry mentors.

Market Development Program: Provides resources to investigate and capture new market opportunities and enhance the competitive capability of the industry.

Agriculture Development Program: Provides funding to develop agriculture projects that enhance regional economic development and contribute to sustainability in rural communities.

Diversification and Value-added Program: Provides assistance to producers who diversify their operations to take advantage of market opportunities that will increase profitability of the farm.

Land Enhancement Program: Improves the utilization of the existing titled farm land that was previously developed for agricultural use and has not been used for agriculture for several years.

What funding is available?

Human Resource Development Program: Eligible costs may include but are not limited to transportation, accommodation, meals, registration fee, course material and speaker fees. Assistance may be provided up to 50 per cent of the actual costs for individual agriculture producers, processors, partnerships, or corporations; up to 75 per cent of actual costs for cooperatives or farm groups representing three or more agribusinesses; and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and non-profit organizations.

New Entrants Development Program: Assistance may be provided up to 50 per cent of wage cost of intern employees to a maximum of $5 000 per year. Assistance may be provided up to 50 per cent of actual costs for individual agriculture producers, processors, partnerships, or corporations; up to 75 per cent of actual costs for cooperatives or farm groups representing three or more agribusinesses; and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and non-profit organizations.

Market Development Program: Assistance may be provided up to 50 per cent of actual costs for individual agriculture producers, processors, partnerships, or corporations; up to 75 per cent of actual costs for cooperatives or farm groups representing three or more agribusinesses; and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and non-profit organizations.

Agriculture Development Program: Eligible costs may include equipment, facilities, third party labour, and professional and technical support. Assistance may be provided up to 75 per cent of actual costs for cooperatives or farm groups representing three or more agribusinesses; and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and non-profit organizations.

Diversification and Value-added Program: Eligible costs may include equipment, facilities, third party labour, andprofessional and technical support. Assistance may be provided up to 50 per cent of actual costs for individual agriculture producers, processors, partnerships, or corporations; 75 per cent of actual costs for cooperatives or farm groups representing three or more agribusinesses and up to 100 per cent of actual costs for government and non-profit organizations.

Land Enhancement Program: Eligible costs my include equipment rental, third party labour, contractor services, fertilizer and seeds. Assistance may be provided up to 50 of actual costs for individual agricultural producers, partnerships or corporations to a maximum of $250 per hectare. Funding will not be provided for land previously improved through assistance from other federal or territorial programs.

Whom do I contact for more information?

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International Programs

Federal, provincial and territorial governments and the industry are working in partnership to develop and implement international programs to create and expand international opportunities for the Canadian agri-food sector. Programs are designed to maximize international opportunities arising from progress on the domestic front.

The strategy is aimed at gaining recognition for quality Canadian products and building new markets; improving international market access; overcoming technical barriers; and enhancing international development.

Each of these components is knitted into a coherent and integrated whole, utilizing a progressive management structure and outcome-based approach. Value chain roundtables have been organized along commodity lines to bring together a cross-section of senior industry players that are representative of the value chain, as well as senior government officials and other interest groups in order to build strong partnerships in pursuit of international interests.

To achieve these goals, we are pursuing joint marketing strategies with industry to gain recognition for the quality of Canadian products through a major branding Canada campaign in concert with industry and to further growth in targeted geographic markets.

The Government of Canada is working closely with the World Trade Organization and pressing for the elimination of export subsidies and lower trade-distorting domestic support so that farmers from all countries can enjoy higher market returns. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) is committed to ensuring that decisions on the production and marketing of Canadian products continue to be made in Canada.

AAFC is working with partners and stakeholders to develop market access protocols as needed and to pursue more rapid resolution of technical barriers to market access. As well, with active participation in discussion of international trade issues and standards, Canadian priorities and policy approaches will increasingly inform the debate in multilateral standard-setting organizations.

Activities under the International priority include:

- gaining international recognition through intensified marketing efforts and partnership with industry.
- improving market access by developing clear rules to govern international agricultural trade.
- overcoming technical trade issues and challenge existing measures when necessary.
- enhancing international development through the promotion of international activities by forging market relationships to support market development and trade policy goals.

Federal Program

- Enhanced Representation Initiative (ERI)

Enhanced Representation Initiative (ERI)

What is the program objective?

The initiative's objective is to increase Canada's advocacy and business development efforts in the United States (US). These efforts include the promotion and facilitation of investment, trade, science and technology and innovation in regional areas of the US.

What are the expected results of the program?

The expected results are:

- increased involvement of federal departments and agencies in articulating of Canadian advocacy and International Business Development (IBD) priorities in and for the United States;
- improved coherence of strategic direction for Canada's suite of advocacy and international business development programs in the US;
- enhanced political/economic and market intelligence-gathering capacity (and sharing of the results of that gathering);
- enhanced capacity to deliver Canada's suite of advocacy and international business development programs in the US;
- increased awareness:

  (a) among Canadian firms of US opportunities; and

  (b) among US audiences of Canadian strengths/advantages, particularly with respect to science & technology, innovation, investment, and trade;
- improved knowledge and understanding of the US political and economic dynamic and context among Canadian policymakers;
- increased interest of US contacts in investing in Canadian firms and in purchasing Canadian goods and services; and
- increased participation of Canadian firms in target US markets.

The initiative's expected key results are:

- strengthened political and economic relationship with the US;
- increased trade, investment and technology exchange vis-à-vis the US;
- increased public awareness in the US of Canada and its values;
- enhanced exploitation of economic benefits in Canada resulting from an expanding base of commercialization and adoption opportunities; and
- increased in-market support to assist industry to build Canada brand image and maximize opportunities for agri-food and seafood products.

Is the program a new, existing or transition program?

This is a new initiative.

Program description

The Enhanced Representation Initiative (ERI) is a strategic management plan developed to demonstrate to Canadians and our US trading partner that the Government of Canada has a clear strategy to advance our economic and trade interests and to further strengthen partnerships with the US, Canada's largest trading partner. The ERI's partners have committed to the following results over the five-year funding period:

- Through the ERI, the Government of Canada will add Canadian and local personnel on the ground to develop networks, gather market intelligence and promote Canadian interests and capabilities in the new centres of political and economic power.
- The priorities of the initiative are to increase our presence in the newer centres of economic and/or political power by establishing new Consulates; and to be responsive and targeted in our approach in the smaller centres elsewhere in the US, primarily through the use of Honorary Consuls.

The proposal calls for:

- enhancing two existing offices to Consulates General (Miami and San Francisco);
- creating one new Consulate General (Denver);
- creating six satellite Consulates to existing Consulates General (Houston, San Diego, Raleigh–Durham, Phoenix, Philadelphia and Anchorage);
- establishing two Canada-based and two locally engaged staff positions in new and existing offices to focus specifically on agriculture issues.

Twenty Honorary Consuls will be named in 20 different cities in the US, where Canada does not currently have an office. Ten Honourary Consuls will be named in fiscal year 2003–2004 and the remaining ten will be named in fiscal year 2004–2005.

When will the program be available, end or transition?

Implementation of the initiative commenced in the fall of 2003 and all offices will be fully operational by the end of 2004. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's (AAFC) participation is up for review at the end of 2007–08.

Who should apply for the program?

The ERI is a joint program among partners that include: Foreign Affairs Canada (FAC), International Trade Canada (ITCan), Industry Canada (IC), Western Economic Development (WED), National Research Council (NRC), Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA), Canada Economic Development for the Regions of Quebec (CED).

What funding is available?

Total funding for this program over the next 5 years is $118.2 million. This cost is shared by the Fiscal Framework ($59.1 million), FAC/ITCan ($26.6 million), Industry Portfolio Partners ($25.0 million), and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada ($7.5 million).

Total funding available under the apf (2003–2008) AAFC has committed $1.5 million per year for 5 years, or $7.5 million in total, ending in 2007–08.

Who will deliver the service?

An ERI Secretariat has been established to coordinate the participation and input of the partner departments and agencies. The program is delivered through the US consul offices. Governance of this initiative is managed through an inter-departmental Operations Committee that reports to the Deputy Ministers of the partner departments through an Assistant Deputy Ministers' Committee.

Whom do I contact for more information?

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